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Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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75¢

Dead body was already rigid when found—DPS

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

The body of the 64-year-old man who was found dead by the beach of the 13 Fishermen's Memorial in Garapan last Tuesday was already stiff when found by police.

According to an official statement from the Department of Public Safety, when police responded to a call reporting a dead man by the 13 Fishermen's beach area, the body was already in an advanced state of rigor mortis.

Rigor mortis is a medical term used to describe a body that has stiffened after death.

The police statement said the elderly man was unresponsive when dispatch arrived. Earlier unofficial police statements did not find any signs of foul play, that the man may

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Barcinas jumps ship

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Barcinas

Rep. Donald Barcinas, the NMI Republican Party's candidate for Precinct 3, has endorsed the gubernatorial tandem of his party's opponent, saying he did so because he was disappointed with the enactment of the Cannabis Act.

In a press briefing yesterday where he announced his shift in alliances, Barcinas said he chose to support the independent candidacies

See BARCINAS on Page 4

FIELD OF HEROES
Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, seated third left, joins organizers of the Field of Heroes Recognition Week, members of the Department of Fire and Emergency Management Services, and other government officials in yesterday's proclamation signing at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center.
JON PEREZ

See story on Page 4

New RFPs for Marpi property

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The government will solicit separate proposals for the management of the different Marpi properties that were formerly being leased by the Kitami family-owned Kan Pacific Saipan Ltd.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said the Department of Public Lands is working on separate requests for proposals, or RFP, for the Mariana Resort Hotel & Spa, Marianas Country Club golf course, and the Olympic-size pool.

The re-announcement of the bid for the management of the properties came about after DPL and the original bidder, Imperial Pacific Inter-

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Another gas price hike

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

The fourth gas price hike of the year comes just three months before the end of 2018 and nearly four months since the last price increase.

Mobil raised its gas prices Tuesday morning by 10 cents.

As of yesterday, the fourth price increase of the year boosted the price of Mobil's Extra fuel from $4.43 per gallon to $4.53 per gallon, while Mobil's Supreme fuel went up from $4.80 to $4.90 a gallon.

Shell followed suit and raised their gas prices on Tuesday.

The first gas price hike of the year was a 13-cent increase implemented on Jan. 8, 2018, raising gas prices from $3.95 to $4.08 per gallon. That was later raised after

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INSIDE

BUSINESS
Four states have marijuana ballot questions this fall. Here's a look at them.

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ASIA
Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte said that tests show he doesn't have cancer.

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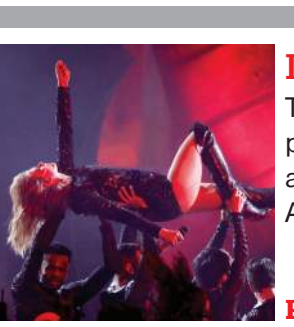

LIFE & STYLE
Taylor Swift gets political and wins big at the American Music Awards.

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Local

Club 88 takes pride in hiring local staff

KIMBERLY BAUTISTA

From left, Mariana Entertainment LLC consultant Gus Noble, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, and First Lady Diann Torres cut the ribbon during the expansion ribbon cutting ceremony of Club 88 last Saturday.

From left, Marianas Entertainment LLC consultant Gus Noble, Rep. Edmund Villagomez, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, first lady Diann Torres, Senate President Arnold Palacios, and his wife Wella Palacios pose for a photo during the Club 88 ribbon cutting ceremony last Saturday. KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The owners of Club 88 and Vegas Resort—Mariana Entertainment LLC and MP Holdings—take pride in their 100-percent local workforce.

During the ribbon-cutting ceremony last Saturday for Club 88's expansion in Garapan, Mariana Entertainment LLC consultant Gus Noble said he is proud of the local staff that they have hired in their last four years of operation.

"In the last few months, the company that runs Vegas Resort now runs Club 88 so we are now one family…we are happy with our staff. I am proud to say that we have a total of 45 local staff," he said.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, who was present for the ribbon cutting, said that having 100-percent local employment is a testament that the CNMI is moving forward in hiring local U.S. workers.

"We have more workforce today since 2002…when you see businesses, regardless of what it is, when you see opening of businesses and you continue to see ground breakings and ribbon cuttings…that's opportunities and that's lives that are…moving forward," he said.

According to Noble, the Club 88 expansion cost about $250,000 and would give customers a much larger gaming venue and more machines to choose from.

Also present at the ceremony was first lady Diann Torres, Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan) and Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Ind-Saipan).

Rep. Edmund Villagomez, left, and Gov. Ralph DLG Torres talk during the Club 88 ribbon cutting ceremony last Saturday. KIMBERLY BAUTISTA

The façade of the newly expanded Club 88 in Garapan. DONNA RIVERA

Customers enjoy the new machines during the Club 88 expansion ribbon cutting ceremony last Saturday. KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

CLUB 88
THE BEST LITTLE GAMING CLUB IN SAIPAN
OCTOBER
PLAYER PROMOTIONS
Great daily player promotional draws, including a 12pm lunch time draw, with $250 cash prize daily and free play vouchers and Vegas resort stays, with over $22,000 to be won by Lucky 88 Players!
PLUS $5000 October 6th, the
"New 88 Grand Opening Celebration Draw"
Come Play today and you could be a big winner!

All 4 DORE Program participants praised

All four participants of the U.S. District Court for the NMI's Drug Offender Reentry Program were found to have been complying so far with DORE's conditions and requirements at a session Tuesday afternoon.

That prompted Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona and DORE team members to praise the participants: Ryan Taitano Babauta, Kenneth T. Dowai, Roque Sablan Norita, and Manuel A. Sablan.

At DORE's 49th drug court session, Babauta prepared an essay on ways he rewards himself or respond to pressure.

Manglona advised the participants that Crispin Sablan will no longer be a treatment provider for the U.S. Probation Office and that they will transition to Marianas Behavioral Health International.

Manglona set the next DORE Program drug court session for Oct. 23 at 3pm.

The DORE Program is a post-incarceration cooperative effort program of the U.S. District Court, U.S. Probation Office, Federal Public Defender, and U.S. Attorney's Office.

DORE provides treatment and sanction alternative to address re-integration into the community for non-violent, substance abuse offenders release from federal prison.

Three participants have so far graduated from DORE. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

CPA pays CUC $4.4M; CHCC-CUC reconciling accounts

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. recently received a $4.4 million check from the Commonwealth Ports Authority as payment for utilities. This comes as CUC continues its talks with the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. about its utility costs.

CUC executive director Gary P. Camacho told *Saipan Tribune* that while they got CPA's $4.4 million payment, there are other further discussions moving forward with CPA.

Camacho disclosed that there is a memorandum of agreement that they are going to address with CPA.

Camacho

"But yes, it's going well. Obviously, with a payment like that, it's a continuing progress," he said.

When asked how much CPA still owes CUC, Camacho said he can't cite the exact number since he lacks updated information considering that there is an offset on the wharfage from CPA to CUC.

Wharfage refers to a charge assessed by a port or a shipping terminal when goods are transported through it.

With respect to CHCC's outstanding billings, Camacho said he had a short discussion about this with a CHCC official last week at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce meeting.

He said CUC and CHCC will be getting the final documents as they reconcile their accounts and that they will then be addressing how to deal with them.

Last August, Camacho said autonomous agencies like CHCC have been slowly settling their accounts, making their payable current.

He said they also have a wonderful payment program with the Public School System and other autonomous agencies and with the central government.

CHCC executive director Esther Muna recently disclosed that CHCC spend about $300,000 a month on power consumption.

Muña believed that once the Photovoltaic System Parking Shade Structure or solar project at the Common-

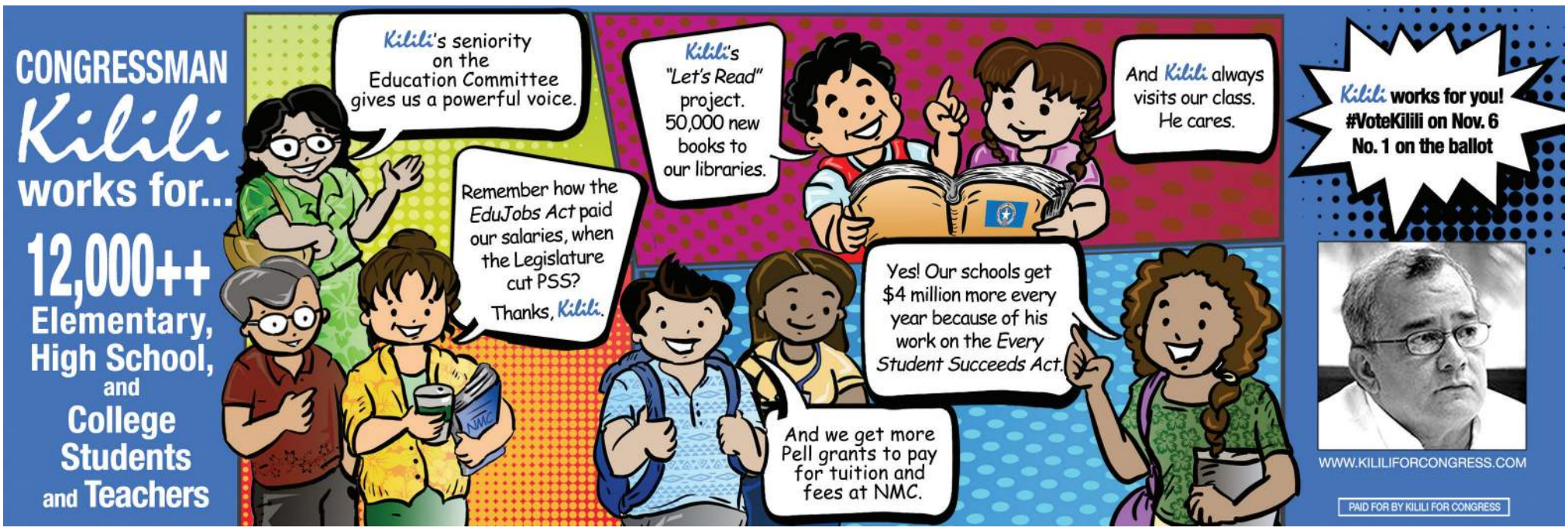
See CPA on Next Page

Water outage on Saturday in As Terlaje

There will be a scheduled water service interruption on Saturday, Oct. 13, 2018, from 7:30am to 1pm for customers residing along the As Terlaje area on Chalan Monsignor Guerrero Road, Middle Road (Chalan Pale Arnold Road to the Gualo Rai traffic light) and on Beach Road (Atkins Kroll to YCO Hardware). Customers in the affected areas should expect restoration of water services soon thereafter.

The purpose of the water service interruption is to allow Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s water operations personnel to perform repairs on a damaged 2-inch service lateral leak on Chalan Monsignor Guerrero Road, below the As Terlaje Hill.

For the safety of our men and women working at the site, motorists are advised to proceed with caution when traveling through the area or to take alternative routes if necessary. ***(PR)***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Fallen heroes honored this week

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

Fallen heroes, along with current emergency response teams in the CNMI, are being honored this week in remembrance of the events last Sept. 11, 2001, and the quick action of first responders that made the difference.

The lives of past and current firefighters, police officers, first responders, military veterans, and military men who put their lives on the line each day are being honored for a week starting yesterday until Oct. 17, 2018.

As part of the remembrance, American flags would be on display at the American Memorial Park on Saipan from Oct. 14 to Oct. 22 in honor of those who have and continue to serve and defend the nation.

On Tinian and Rota, flags would be on display starting Oct. 15, 2018, at the Veterans Memorial Park and the Joaquin Ogo Baseball Field, respectively.

Torres

"Sept. 11, 2001, affected not just our lives [in the nation] but worldwide," said Gov. Ralph DLG Torres. "Sept. 11 created a whole new world…a whole new approach not just for our safety, but also for travelling here in our home. …We should always appreciate our [first responder] employees today, and we should never forget those who have fallen—our heroes."

The Tan Siu Lin Foundation, the charity arm of Tan-Holdings Inc., would host a Freedom Walk on Oct. 17, 2018, starting at 5pm from the Garapan Fishing Base to the American Memorial Park, immediately followed by the 9/11 ceremony at the Field of Heroes site. The flags would be retired on Oct. 22.

The TSL Foundation has been organizing this event for three years in a row now.

On Tinian, the posting of flags starts on Oct. 15, 2018, and they would be retired on Oct. 26, 2018. The Freedom Walk and 9/11 ceremony has yet to be announced.

On Rota, the posting of flags starts also on Oct. 15, 2018, and would be retired on Oct. 27, 2018. The Freedom Walk is set for Oct. 26 at 5pm while the 9/11 ceremony at the Field of Heroes site starts right after.

Zero tolerance for drugs, alcohol in workplace

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands and the Saipan Chamber of Commerce are reminding workers that majority of businesses in the CNMI have zero tolerance policies when it comes to drugs and alcohol or reporting for work under the influence.

That means despite Gov. Ralph DLG Torres having already signed a bill into law that legalizes cannabis in the CNMI, it is still considered an illegal substance since certain policies are needed to be in place before marijuana use becomes completely legal.

"We must remember that cannabis remains illegal under the U.S. federal law. U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions rescinded an Obama administration memo that recommended a hands-off approach to marijuana," HANMI chair Gloria Cavanagh told *Saipan Tribune*. "Just because cannabis becames legal in the CNMI does not prevent employers from banning use. The majority of us have zero tolerance drug policies. This will not change."

She added that employees caught using marijuana in the workplace or reporting for work under the influence would be subjected to disciplinary action or can be terminated from their job.

Cavanagh said she doesn't believe that the legalization of cannabis for recreational use in the CNMI will support the local travel industry. "Instead, it will make visitors of Saipan considered potential criminals since our main markets (definitely Korea, probably China) consider it illegal."

"Even though Saipan is known as safe place for family oriented travel, it's way forward is gambling and cannabis. If a visitor was to come to the CNMI and state at the border that they are here because cannabis is legal, the federal government can deny them access and ban them from traveling here."

She added that even non-U.S. citizens and green card holders are not exempt. "Additionally, non-U.S. citizens and green card holders may be subject to deportation by the federal government if caught using or purchasing marijuana."

SCC president Velma Palacios said the CNMI Cannabis Commission must first be established. "Although the CNMI has legalized marijuana, the federal government has not. It is still federally illegal under the Controlled Substance Act. The CNMI has to set up the Cannabis Commission, create regulations and promulgate them."

"Businesses must be aware of both federal and CNMI laws. Some businesses may be receiving federal funds and it could jeopardize their funding for federal projects or contracts."

Palacios said that businesses always have their own drug and alcohol policies and advised employees who need it for medicinal use to show a doctor's letter or prescription.

"We do not want our employees to be impaired. It may be legal but employees are still responsible to follow the policies of their workplace. As for medical use, a letter from your doctor will be required."

She added that even banks could not handle transactions involving the sale of marijuana. "As growing and selling marijuana violate federal law, [Federal Deposit Insurance Corp.] banks are not allowed to handle any [proceeds] derived from marijuana transactions. This will be difficult for businesses to set up accounts with these FDIC banks."

BARCINAS

From Page 1

of Juan Nekai Babauta and Rita Sablan because he believes the two candidates supports his principles in regards to the Cannabis Act, which was enacted last Sept. 21.

"I cannot continue to support a party that has a different belief, especially when it comes to the marijuana legalization. …That was one of the determining factors why I decided. …I felt dishonored when the governor signed the marijuana legalization bill," he said.

"We should have put it out for the people to vote if they want to legalize marijuana and not through the legislative process," he added.

Barcinas does not share the same belief that the Cannabis Act would benefit the community.

"I am against marijuana and its legalization. It's not good for the community and I don't believe it will be a revenue generating industry," he said.

Barcinas said the CNMI itself was also disrespected when Gov. Ralph DLG Torres decided to legalize cannabis.

"Our flag went viral on the internet…the ocean was removed as the background and they put marijuana to replace the ocean and, for me, that was a big dishonor…we wouldn't have had that if the marijuana bill wasn't signed into law. The flag is a representation of our people, our attachment to the ocean, the ocean is our livelihood… and when you cover it with marijuana, that's disrespect," he said.

Barcinas believes marijuana poses a threat to his constituents and to the children of the CNMI.

"I stand on my principles of what is right. A lot of my constituents are telling me not to support marijuana legalization and that's why I'm listening to the people that put me in office…" he said.

"There was already an incident at Kagman High School where students baked brownies laced with marijuana and they brought it to school…Some other schools could do the same thing with cookies, brownies, or cakes…lace it with marijuana and bring it to school and innocent students will get stoned," he added.

He is sure he made the right decision.

"I feel relieved, liberated… I think I made the right decision," he said.

Babauta said he welcomes Barcinas' move to endorse his candidacy.

"I welcome his coming to support the Babauta-Sablan team and we welcome him with open arms," he said.

MARPI

From Page 1

national (CNMI) LLC, failed to agree on some legal issues, Torres said after yesterday's proclamation signing for Field of Heroes Recognition Week at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center.

He said both DPL and IPI tried to come up with an agreement but "unfortunately, that agreement was not met, so the approach is to make another RFP. In the meantime, I believe that Mariana Resort has a security maintenance agreement so they can continue to maintain the property."

Torres said the bidding process is open to all interested companies, even to IPI. "Everybody is open to bid. No company is excluded from the bid. The last time [IPI] was the only company that submitted a bid."

"Unfortunately, like I said, there were legal matters that they [DPL and IPI] were not able to come to an agreement. So they [DPL] separated the parts of the facility."

When the Kan Pacific lease on the over 55,000-square meter property was about to expire this year, DPL offered up the property for bidding and IPI submitted the lone bid. Kan Pacific did not submit a bid and was only given an extension that ended on Sept. 30

Maintenance crew and other hotel staff were given a week to remove and pack all equipment and furniture owned by Kan Pacific outside the facility, and on Oct. 7 power and water supply was finally cut. Employees who were living at the staff housing were also asked to move out.

Torres assured that the facilities would be opened again and won't turn into another abandoned La Fiesta Mall. "Absolutely not. We will not allow it to turn into another La Fiesta. We will not allow it to be anything close to La Fiesta."

Torres also reminded that the pool is still closed to the public. "The pool is not open to the community at this point because of liability purposes. We're separating the RFP."

"The original RFP was for all—golf course, hotel, and swimming pool. Unfortunately there were legal matters and IPI was not able to consummate an agreement. So, they are separating all of the three aspects of the Mariana Resort."

He said his administration would work with the winning bidder in making sure operations of the facilities would continue.

"They will be separating the pool, golf course, and hotel. Because hotel costs a lot of money and at this point it is just a losing proposition to maintain a hotel without any booking…We want to make sure that we work with whoever wins the bid. To make sure that the property and facility will be well maintained and operated," added Torres.

DEAD

From Page 1

have died of natural causes.

Police cars closed off the area early Tuesday morning after receiving a report of a dead body found by the beach shore.

DPS Dispatch received the call at 5:32am.

Upon arriving at the scene, police found the victim's body lying face up by a coconut tree north of the 13 Fishermen's pavilion.

The body was immediately brought to the Commonwealth Health Canter and was pronounced dead at 6:43am.

Investigators later found out that the victim had been taking heart and kidney medication and had just consumed alcohol.

Dispatch reported that the man also had an abrasion on the back of his head and on both his knees.

According to the victim's companion, they were new to the island and had just arrived Sept. 27, 2018. The pair had not even established a permanent address yet.

The cause of the victim's death is still under investigation.

DPS Commissioner Robert Guerrero said in an interview last Tuesday that no autopsy has been done to the body and one cannot be made until DPS files a report about the incident.

GAS

From Page 1

a month by 15 cents on Feb. 5, 2018, which was the second gas hike of the year. Gas went from $4.08 to $4.23 per gallon. Three months later, on May 14, the third gas price increase was at 20 cents, raising gas prices from $4.23 to $4.43 per gallon.

According to *Saipan Tribune* archives, gas prices were at $3.48 in early 2016 and continued to increase until it reached $3.93 in December 2016. A decrease of 10 cents was seen in June of 2017 before it increased by 10 cents again in October 2017.

Gas prices have been going up nationwide since President Trump pulled the United States out of a deal with Iran, one of the world's largest oil producers.

CPA

From Page 3

wealth Health Center parking lot is completed by next year, CHCC expects to save as much as $700,000 on their utility bills.

The CPA board of directors lately approved a supplemental budget of $2.4 million to cover the shortfall for their utility expenses incurred in the past several months at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport.

According to CPA's supplemental budget request, from October 2017 to July 2018, the airport's electrical, water and sewer total expenses reached $4.2 million, while the estimated August and September 2018 total billing is $842,419. The brings utility expenses for that period to $5.0 million.

Seaman sues over alleged injuries aboard ship

A merchant seaman is suing the U.S. government in federal court over injuries he allegedly suffered when a loaded pallet pinned him against the railings of a ship that was docked in Japan in 2016.

Saipan-resident Kenneth Lockhart is suing the United States for negligence under the Jones Act, for unseaworthiness, and failure to maintain and cure the vessel. He said the vessel, USNS *Montford Point*, which is operated and managed by Ocean Shipholdings Inc., is U.S.-owned.

Lockhart, through counsel William M. Fitzgerald, asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to hold the U.S. government liable to pay him damages, medical expenses, loss of earnings, and court costs. He wants a jury trial.

According to Fitzgerald in the complaint, which was filed Tuesday, Lockhart was one of the vessel's crew on Oct. 17, 2016. On that day, the vessel USNS *Montford Point* was moored in Yokohama and was preparing to go to sea.

Fitzgerald said the plaintiff was working below deck and was tasked to move a tool storage cabinet from one position below deck to another where it would be stowed.

Instead of using a plate jack or forklift, the second engineer allegedly directed Lockhart and another crewmember to help him slide the loaded pallet across the deck. While doing so the pallet temporarily pinned Lockhart against a railing.

Fitzgerald said after a period of disability during which he received medical care ashore, Lockhart returned to the vessel as a member of the crew.

On Aug. 26, 2017, Fitzgerald said, Lockhart was assigned duties that required him to perform heavy lifting. That allegedly aggravated his injuries, resulting in a second period of disability and medical treatment.

Fitzgerald said the U.S. government breached its duties to plaintiff, in that, it failed, among other things, to promulgate and enforce rules and procedures requiring the use of reasonably required gear and equipment.

"As a direct and legal result of the negligence of the defendant, plaintiff was hurt and injured in his health and strength and sustained personal injuries," the lawyer said. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Scheduled power interruptions

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. would like to inform the public that there will be scheduled power interruptions on the following dates, times and locations:

■ **Saturday, Oct. 13, 2018, from 5am to 12pm.**

-Outage type: Sectionalized feeder outage on the Feeder 1 and 3 double distribution circuit

-Village location: Garapan Middle Road

-Area(s) affected: Chalan Pale Arnold Road, Garapan, Sugar King Road, Garapan, and China Town

-Traffic light intersection(s) affected: Garapan Middle Road and China Town

-Water well(s) affected: None

-Wastewater lift station(s) affected: None

-Pole replacement(s): 2

■ **Sunday, Oct. 14, 2018, from 5am to 12pm**

-Outage type: Sectionalized feeder outage on the Feeder 1 and 3 double distribution circuit

-Village location: Garapan Middle Road

-Area(s) affected: Chalan Pale Arnold Road Garapan, Commonwealth Drive, Gualo Rai Road

-Traffic light intersection(s) affected: None

-Water well(s) affected: None

-Wastewater lift station(s) affected: None

-Pole replacement(s): 1

The purpose of the power interruptions is to allow CUC linemen to replace wooden poles with concrete ones. ***(PR)***

Disaster Recovery Centers to open

The CNMI Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Management has identified permanent sites for Disaster Recovery Centers on the islands of Rota, Saipan, and Tinian.

Beginning today, Oct. 11, 2018, the following sites will be open to allow homeowners, renters and business owners impacted by Typhoon Mangkhut to register for disaster assistance. These sites will be open Mondays through Fridays from 9am to 6pm and Saturdays, from 10am to 4pm (closed on Sundays):

■ **Rota**: Northern Marianas College Instructional Site (Room A-1)

■ **Saipan**: Joeten-Kiyu Public Library

■ **Tinian**: Northern Marianas College (Room C)

The Tinian Mayor's Office would like to notify the Tinian community that a lot number is required upon registration. Lot number information may be obtained from the Department of Public Lands and will cost .50 cents per copy.

The best method to register for disaster assistance in the CNMI is by visiting your nearest Disaster Recovery Center to ensure accurate physical addresses are reflected in FEMA's system.

In addition to provide opportunities to register for disaster assistance, DRCs provide a location for disaster survivors to check the status of their applications, to submit documentation and to speak with representatives from other agencies that assist in disaster recovery, such as the Small Business Administration.

SBA information

Businesses of all sizes and private nonprofit organizations may borrow up to $2 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory and other business assets. SBA can also lend additional funds to businesses and homeowners to help with the cost of improvements to protect, prevent or minimize the same type of disaster damage from occurring in the future.

For small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture and most private nonprofit organizations of any size, SBA offers Economic Injury Disaster Loans to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster. Economic injury assistance is available to businesses regardless of any property damage.

Disaster loans up to $200,000 are available to homeowners to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate. Homeowners and renters are eligible for up to $40,000 to repair or replace damaged or destroyed personal property.

What to bring with you

To ensure a faster, more efficient application process, obtain the following information prior to heading to the nearest Disaster Recovery Center:

■ Social security number (one per household)

■ Address of the damaged home or apartment

■ Description of the damage

■ Information about insurance coverage

■ Telephone number

■ Mailing address

■ Bank account and routing numbers for direct deposit of funds

Follow CNMI on social media

The CNMI Joint Information Center urges the community to follow the following social media platforms to get the latest weather updates and information:

■ CNMI EOC State Warning Point Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/cnmieocswp/

■ CNMI Office of the Governor Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/CNMIGov/

■ Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/ralphdlg.torres/

■ CNMI Joint Information Center: https://www.facebook.com/JICNMI/

The CNMI JIC also encourages residents to download HSEM's *readyCNMI* app available for free in the Apple iStore or Google PlayStore to receive the latest weather updates and notifications. ***(HSEM)***

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EXPLORE YOUR WORLD
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Turning ideas into tattoo art

By BEA CABRERA
beacabrerasaipan@gmial.com
CORRESPONDENT

BEA CABRERA
Marcus Taicasan continues to pursue art and finds joy in tattooing, using human skin as his canvas.

Homegrown tattoo artist Marcus Taisacan began making a mark in the lives of others when he was just 15 years old.

"I started drawing in elementary because of my love for art and my dad was a big part of that because of his influence. He was not a tattoo artist but loved to draw faces, portrait kind of art… I didn't have the real machine then, so what I did was I took my mother's music player and broke it so I can take the motor inside and made my own machine," he said.

Now the owner of Marked4Life tattoo in Garapan, Taisacan said he was self-taught. "No one actually taught me how to do tattoos. All I had were imagination, ideas, and a passion for creating fine art.

"It was really challenging when I started in the 1990's because, back then, the internet wasn't accessible, unlike now," he added.

There is no degree required to become a tattoo artist but innate artistic ability is a start. "I started by messing around with my cousins and close friends… I was drawing on paper and I used a carbon paper or stencil if it's tribal art to transfer it to the skin," Taicasan said.

"Now, when people come to me for their first tattoo, it is meaningful both ways. For them it is personal as they have their loved ones' names tattooed. Sometimes it is a memorial to remind them of a special person that has passed on and sometimes they just want to be different from the rest. As for me, it is meaningful because of the trust and confidence that my customers have in me."

Taicasan believes in freely expressing one's self and encourages clients to state what art they want done. "I don't have flash art and most of the time people come in and tell me what they actually want. I take images but I change it up a little bit, enhance it so it will be an original but, of course, with the client's consent because some just want the image the way it is," he said.

"Like in other aspects of life, tattoo takes time. I tell my clients when they come in that don't expect that it will be finished right away. Art takes time, especially the big and detailed ones. Some take many sessions and I explain to them that it's a process," he said.

In pursuing art and choosing human skin as his canvas, Taicasan finds joy in tattooing every day. "The thought of leaving a mark on people makes me more passionate about tattooing. I never thought that this time would actually come—that I'm doing it, running my own shop and putting art on people. I started when I was 15 years old and 23 years later, I am still doing it," he said.

"When I see clients around town with their tattoo, it makes me happy to see them express themselves and flaunt the art that they have in their bodies. …To date I've put my mark on more than a thousand clients and I don't plan on slowing down any time soon," he added.

'I saw Amelia Earhart'

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Two persons reportedly saw on two separate occasions the lost aviation pioneer Amelia Earhart on Saipan, the first female aviator to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean.

Josephine Blanco, a 93-year old who reportedly saw Earhart in the Tanapag Harbor in 1937, noted that at the time, she didn't know it was Earhart. She was 12 years old at the time.

"I cannot say she is pretty because I saw her from a distance," Blanco said yesterday at a welcoming dinner at the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan.

"I didn't even go inside [the harbor area]," she said, adding that it was a commotion in the area that caught her attention. She said she was halfway toward the harbor, and that was where she caught a glimpse of a woman's figure.

"I didn't go there to look for somebody or meet somebody. I just happened to be there," she said, adding that she found out it was Earhart only after World War II.

WWII started in 1939.

"I didn't tell anybody, I didn't know about her," Blanco said. "Only my family knew—my sister worked [in the area], and she knew too."

Blanco mentioned other family members who knew of Earhart, but noted that they have all passed away.

Eighty-five-year-old Joaquin T. Salas was 11 when he believed he saw Earhart in 1944.

Salas noted that he is unsure if the woman he saw then was Earhart, but was sure that he saw her on a Japanese military truck with three others.

"There were two men and one lady, a blonde. They put one ribbon on her face, and her hands were tied," he said. The truck parked in front of their house, which was across the post office in Chalan Kanoa today.

Salas said he watched them stay in front of their residence for about an hour.

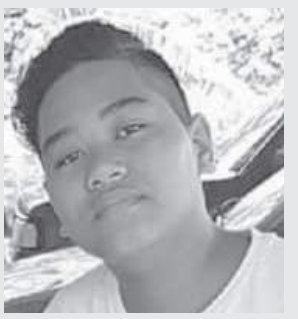
"After that, they took off. I don't know where they went," he said.

Salas was able to reproduce through a drawing what he remembers were the positions of the military truck.

Salas believes the Japanese captured Earhart, and that they parked in front of their house at that time.

ERWIN ENCINARES
Josephine Blanco, center, hugs her nephew, Harry Blanco, as John Blanco, also a relative, looks on.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Happy 13th birthday to Zared Camacho Nekaifes! You are loved for the little boy you were, the special man you are now, and the wonderful son you will always be. Greetings come from Mommy.

Labor compiling data on workforce labor population

The CNMI Department of Labor recently invited over 2,000 companies from the business community requesting information on their total workforce population.

The online survey on the DOL website, www.marianaslabor.net, is a short five-question questionnaire aimed at gathering data on a company's employee population by citizen type and immigration status.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres emphasized the importance of workforce statistics to determine workforce policies aimed at better developing the CNMI U.S. workforce and assisting residents who are actively looking for work or are transitioning.

"Through our discussions with our federal partners over the last few years, we recognized that data is key to presenting a clear picture of our economy and our labor needs. We have made great progress in these areas by working with our private sector partners, and we encourage them to continue giving us the information so we can help their businesses succeed. A proactive relationship between the government and our business community will help safeguard our economy from bad actors, help our people get into good paying job opportunities, and raise wages and profits for everyone," Torres said.

"The survey is intended to obtain a total number of the CNMI workforce population and determine the ratio of U.S. workers to nonimmigrant laborers," Labor Secretary Vicky Benavente said. "The survey is confidential and participant responses will not be used to identify a particular individual or company. The results of the survey will be used for statistical purposes only and reported in aggregated form."

The CNMI DOL requests all companies to participate in the survey. For those who did not receive an invite, the online survey may be completed by going to the CNMI DOL website home page at www.marianaslabor.net and clicking on the SurveyMonkey link.

For additional information about the survey or to ask to be included in future surveys, all businesses or company representatives may contact the Division of Employment Services at 664- 3190 or 322-0996. ***(PR)***

PROUD PARENTS CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
From left, mother Rell, Frank A. Villagomez Jr., Michael Villagomez, and dad Frank. Both brothers now have engineering degrees from California State Polytechnic University. Frank graduated on June 10, 2018, with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering. His brother has an electrical engineering degree.

High court denies review; feds defend disenfranchisement in US territories

The U.S. Supreme Court denied reviewing yesterday *Segovia v. United States*, a lawsuit seeking to expand voting rights in U.S. territories.

The lawsuit was brought by Equally American on behalf of a group of veterans and others living in Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands who would be able to vote for President and have voting representation in Congress if they lived in any other U.S. territory or even a foreign country but cannot based on discriminatory federal and state overseas voting laws.

On Friday, federal officials defended the continued disenfranchisement of millions of U.S. citizens living in the territories in a hearing before the InterAmerican Commission on Human Rights in *Rossello v. United States*.

"Last week, nearly 4 million disenfranchised Americans living in U.S. territories could only watch from the sidelines as a new Supreme Court justice was confirmed to the [Supreme] Court. Today, that same court denied review of our lawsuit seeking to expand voting rights in U.S. territories. This timing paints in stark relief the undemocratic nature of justice for Americans in the territories—98 percent of whom are racial or ethnic minorities," said Neil Weare, president and founder of Equally American, a non-profit organization that advocates for equality and civil rights for the nearly 4 million Americans who live in U.S. territories.

"Absent full enjoyment of the right to vote, Americans in the territories are too easily ignored by all three branches of the federal government," he added. "That's why if we are to bring an end to this second-class citizenship it is more important than ever that we raise the voices of not just the nearly 4 million citizens living in U.S. territories but also the over 5 million strong territorial diaspora who do enjoy the right to vote. Our voices must become so strong that we can no longer be ignored."

Weare said that in the coming weeks and months, Equally American will be considering its next steps for expanding voting rights in U.S. territories.

"As we do that, we'd like to hear from you," Weare said. "If you live in a U.S. territory and would like to be able to vote for President in 2020, please take our Right to Vote survey."

Equally American's Right to Vote survey is available online at http://www.equalrightsnow.org/right_to_vote_survey.

On Friday, the United States defended the denial of voting rights in U.S. territories before the InterAmerican Commission on Human Rights during its hearing in *Rossello v. United States*, a case arguing that disenfranchisement in Puerto Rico violates America's international law commitments to democratic participation.

Equally American filed an amicus brief in the case on behalf of current and former elected officials from Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Northern Mariana Islands.

"It was surreal to watch federal officials actually argue that residents of U.S. territories are not denied meaningful political participation in the federal government because they can vote in presidential primaries, can vote for a non-voting congressperson, or can move to one of the 50 states and vote there," said Weare. "This kind of reasoning not only defies logic, but it insults the dignity of U.S. citizens living in the territories."

While there is no set timeline for a decision, one is expected before the presidential elections in 2020.

Rosselló v. United States follows *Statehood Solidarity Committee v. United States*, a similar case filed by advocates for equal rights in the District of Columbia in which the InterAmerican Commission on Human Rights ruled in 2003 that the denial of voting representation in Congress for residents of D.C. violated the United States' international law commitments. The commission's ruling in this earlier case could foreshadow how the commission rules ultimately rules in *Rossello*. ***(PR)***

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW19-IFB-001

SAIPAN & NORTHERN ISLANDS MUNICIPAL COUNCIL BUILDING

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for **Saipan & Northern Islands Municipal Council Building**, Saipan Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **October 4, 2018** at Pacific Quick Print & Post, located in Middle Road, Garapan, Saipan. A non-refundable payment to Pacific Quick Print & Post, is required to defray the cost of printing the package.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations currently in effect."

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITUES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

There will be a **Mandatory Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **October 23, 2018**, 9:00 a.m. local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All question regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **October 31, 2018** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) Calendar days before the scheduled bid opening**.

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW19-IFB-001"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m. local time November 14, 2018**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, November 14, 2018**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to **procurement@cnmidof.net**. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **November 14, 2018** and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **November 23, 2018**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m. local time, November 28, 2018.** However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:00 a.m. local time, on November 14, 2018**.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars **($25,000.00)** a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission**. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the

face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **§70-30.3-245**. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

1) Cash
2) US Gov't Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **Two Hundred Seventy (270) consecutive calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **Three Hundred Fifty (US$350.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

JAMES A. ADA
Secretary of Public Works

HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd floor-Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW19-IFB-002

ACCESSIBLE IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE GROUND FLOOR OF THE CDA BUILDING

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for **Accessible Improvements for the Ground Floor of the CDA Building,** Saipan Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **September 27, 2018** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of **One Hundred Dollars ($100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Teasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations currently in effect."

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITUES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **October 16, 2018**, 9:00 a.m. local time at the CDA conference room, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All question regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **October 22, 2018** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) Calendar days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW19-IFB-002"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m. local time October 31, 2018**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, October 31, 2018**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to **procurement@cnmidof.net**. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **October 31, 2018** and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **November 13, 2018**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m. local time, November 16, 2018**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:00 a.m. local time, on October 31, 2018**.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars **($25,000.00)** a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the

face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **§70-30.3-245**. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

1) Cash
2) US Gov't Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **Forty-Five (45) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **One Hundred (US$100.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

JAMES A. ADA
Secretary of Public Works

HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply

MANUEL A. SABLAN
CDA Executive Director

2nd Marianas Beer & BBQ Festival gets bigger

The 2nd Annual Marianas Beer & BBQ Festival on Oct. 6, 2018, at Garapan Fishing Base in Saipan surpassed last year's festival in number of attendees, sales, and, by most accounts, fun.

Despite a burst of tropical showers midway through the event, the festival attracted and held even more attendees than last year. Total package sales by the MVA were 13 percent higher compared to the inaugural event. The number of paid packages for those who chose to imbibe was 23 percent higher than in 2017, with over 400 $50 or $25 packages sold.

"The 2018 MBBF was a resounding success. The large crowd included many visitors from around the world. We met people from Japan, Korea, Czech Republic, Singapore, China, the U.S. mainland, and elsewhere, who all expressed their excitement at being at the only beer, wine and BBQ festival in the Marianas," said Marianas Visitor Authority managing director Christopher A. Concepcion.

"Our food and beverage vendors provided fantastic options for our guests, our live entertainers were engaging, our BBQ short ribs cookoff sponsored by Chun Ji Korean BBQ Restaurant was impressive, and our first ever Beer-lympics sponsored by Roil Soil was riveting," he added. "I have to extend a sincere thanks to our Community Projects team and the whole MVA team for their hard work before, during, and after the event. A lot of the work goes on behind the scenes and none of this would've been possible without them. By the same token, we must extend our gratitude to our partners in other CNMI government agencies, our sponsors, and supporters for assisting us with the second annual Marianas Beer & BBQ Festival."

Many attendees held out until the party closed at 11pm, with dozens taking to the dance stage to close out the show with local artist James Selepeo, who was preceded earlier in the evening by Uprooted and Baraja Band.

The 2nd Marianas Beer & BBQ Festival was held on Oct. 6, 2018, at the Garapan Fishing Base. The event is an annual signature event of the Marianas Visitors Authority. MVA

From left, Kent Kalen and Eric Palacios of Team Demapan for Congress, Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Christopher A. Concepcion, and mascot Sir Bessa pose with the eventual winning entry for the Chun Ji BBQ Short Ribs Cookoff at the 2nd Marianas Beer & BBQ Festival on Oct. 6, 2018, at Garapan Fishing Base. MVA

From left, CNMI Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, first lady Diann Torres, Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Christopher A. Concepcion, and MVA deputy managing director Judy Torres at the 2nd Marianas Beer & BBQ Festival on Oct. 6, 2018, at the Garapan Fishing Base. MVA

The Chun Ji BBQ Short Ribs Cookoff at 5pm challenged three participants to prepare on-site the best tasting and best plated short ribs, served with two side dishes. First place went to the duo of Eric Palacios and Kent Kalen of Demapan for Congress, winning $50 worth of festival tokens and two nights stay for four people and an additional pool pass for two at Mango Resort. Second place went to Lancaster Secharmidal and Norman Chan of Hyatt Regency Saipan, winning $40 worth of festival tokens and one-night stay for four people and an additional pool pass for two at Mango Resort, and a beach chair and umbrella from IT&E. Third place was garnered by Pi Chunhui and Han Zhiyu of LT Travel, winning $30 of festival tokens, a Blu Studio J2 cellphone, and a beach chair and umbrella from IT&E. Short ribs were provided by title sponsor Chun Ji Korean BBQ Restaurant.

Lancaster Secharmidal, right, and Norman Chan of Hyatt Regency Saipan prepare their entry for the Chung Ji BBQ Short Ribs Cookoff at the 2nd Marianas Beer & BBQ Festival on Oct. 6, 2018, at Garapan Fishing Base. The team won 2nd place in the contest. MVA

Pi Chunhui and Han Zhiyu of LT Travel win 3rd place in the Chung Ji BBQ Short Ribs Cookoff at the 2nd Marianas Beer & BBQ Festival on Oct. 6, 2018, at Garapan Fishing Base. From left are MC Ben Jones Jr. judge Tao Xing, Miss Marianas and judge Celine Cabrera, Pi, Han, judge Perry Inos, Jr., and Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Christopher A. Concepcion. MVA

Grandvrio Resort Saipan executive chef Samson Tan and Guam Food Guy Ken Stewart sample the spirits at the 2nd Marianas Beer & BBQ Festival on Oct. 6, 2018, at Garapan Fishing Base, Saipan. MVA

Ten teams toed the line for the Beer-lympics from 8pm to 9pm, taking on a series of obstacles or stages to challenge their skills with ping-pong balls, basketballs, frisbees, flip cups, and, of course, beer. Top prize and $200 worth of festival tokens for first place went to the team of Hold My Beer. Second place and $150 worth of festival tokens went to Saipan Brewing. Third place and $100 of festival tokens went to Beer Careful. Winners in both competitions also received giveaways from the MVA.

"We would also like to give special thanks to Department of Lands and Natural Resources, Alcohol Beverage and Tobacco Control, Bureau of Environmental Health, Department of Public Safety, Department of Fire & Emergency Services, Mayor of Saipan, Skywalker Communications Group, Imperial Pacific, Mango Resort, IT&E, Chun Ji Korean BBQ Restaurant, and Roil Soil for helping the MVA make this a great event," said MVA Community Projects specialist and lead event coordinator Ray Villagomez.

Saipan Brewing Co., Marpac, I Love Saipan, Westco, and Franken Brau participated in the event, which paired Marianas brews with island-style barbecue and other appetizers. A variety of chasers were offered by Mystique Snack Bar, Ina's Kitchen, The Hut, and Salty's.

From Taiwan's Fourplay Cuisine & Bar, bar leader Moriz Wu and attendant Sion Wu debuted new signature beer cocktails for the Marianas using locally brewed Saipan Brewing beer: Saipan Sapphire, Tinian Ruby, and Rota Emerald. The duo also showed off their international dance moves along with other visitors and residents at the close of the festival.

For more information on MVA signature events and other events in the Marianas, visit The Marianas Calendar at www.mymarianas.com. ***(MVA)***

Bar leader Moriz Wu, left, and bar attendant Scion Wu of Taiwan's Fourplay Cuisine & Bar prepare signature beer cocktails Saipan Blue, Rota Green, and Tinian Red at the 2nd Marianas Beer & BBQ Festival on Oct. 6, 2018. MVA

A team warm up for the Beer-lympics at the 2nd Marianas Beer & BBQ Festival was held on Oct. 6, 2018, at Garapan Fishing Base, Saipan. From left are Adriana Cotero, Victoria Bellas, Matt Blanco, and Monique Sablan. MVA

A team takes on the flip cup course in the Beer-lympics at the 2nd Marianas Beer & BBQ Festival held on Oct. 6, 2018, at Garapan Fishing Base. MVA

Reward increased to $3K for Guam pet killer

Last week, Guam animal advocacy group GAIN, or Guam Animals In Need, announced a $1,000 reward for information leading to the arrest or grand jury indictment of the killer of a pet dog named Pugua. Funds for the reward came from an anonymous donor.

"Today we're announcing an additional $2,000 reward for the conviction of the person responsible for the heinous killing of Pugua," said Cyrus Luhr, president of the GAIN board. "More donors have stepped forward, allowing us to increase the reward amount," he explained. Donors include a number of members of the Rotary Club of Guam and Dr. Thomas Poole, the territorial veterinarian.

"The public is outraged," said Luhr. "We hope this total of $3,000 in reward money will lead to swift justice."

Local businesses are providing support in additional ways. Harper Valley Kennels is donating cremation services for Pugua, including an urn for his remains. "We're deeply troubled by this violence in Yigo, and want to do our part so Pugua can finally rest in peace," said Seve Susuico, owner of Harper Valley Kennels.

Isla Veterinary Clinic is donating x-ray and storage services, in an effort to recover bullet fragments from Pugua's body. "The brutality shown toward Pugua is shocking, and we're donating our services in an effort to help stop this killer," said Dr. Lisa Silk, owner of Isla Veterinary Clinic.

A pet dog named Pugua was violently killed near his Yigo home on Sept. 27. Based on distressed howls heard by neighbors, the attack is believed to have occurred around 11 am Thursday morning.

A gentle and playful 2-year old Jack Russell and boonie mix, Pugua's body was found shot and possibly beaten in the carport of a family friend who was taking care of him during the day. A bloody shovel was found near his body.

Poole said an autopsy shows that Pugua likely died from "a large caliber bullet probably from a handgun 9mm or larger." Due to the nature of the bullet wound, Poole states that Pugua died instantly in the carport, and was not traveling about the neighborhood.

Pugua's death is one of four recent attacks on pets in the same neighborhood, near the Yigo Mayor's Office. Across the street from Pugua's home, a neighbor reports their golden retriever was recently shot in the leg and testicles with a BB gun. Further up the same road, a couple reports their rottweiler was shot in the chest and killed a few weeks ago. And the day after Pugua was killed, a small stray dog was found dead from gunshot wounds in the same neighborhood.

Information is being sought on a person of interest who made threats against Pugua and other neighborhood dogs a day prior to the attack. He is described as a larger (6', 200-230 lbs) Chamorro man with tattoos and short black hair, last seen Wednesday between 4pm and 5pm in Yigo (near the Mayor's Office) pushing a stroller alongside a pregnant Chamorro woman (5'5", 150 lbs) with long black hair, and two children under the age of 3.

Anyone with information about these violent crimes is urged to contact the Guam Police Department; GAIN at info@guamanimals.org or 653-4246; or Guam Crime Stoppers by calling 477-HELP (4357), texting 486-HELP (4357), or visiting guam.crimestoppersweb.com. ***(PR)***

ONE GUAM IN ACTION

Getting the drop on brown tree snakes

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Local and federal partners conduct aerial suppression of brown tree snakes at the 136-acre habitat management unit on Andersen Air Force Base on Oct. 4. The area is surrounded by a snake exclusion fence.

DEDEDO, Guam—Marking a significant milestone in the suppression of brown tree snakes in Guam, Joint Region Marianas with its local and federal partners, conducted an aerial bait application at Andersen Air Force Base on Oct. 1 and 4.

"Unlike past efforts of aerial brown tree snake suppression, the purpose of this project is the significant suppression of snakes from the 136-acre habitat management unit at Andersen Air Force Base" said Albert Borja, environmental director for Marine Corps Activity Guam.

The area is surrounded by a snake exclusion fence and is an interagency test site established for biological resource studies, including invasive species control and forest restoration. This effort will inform the long-term goal of eradication of brown tree snakes.

The long-term benefit of a snake-free area is the creation of refuge habitat for the future recovery of federally listed native avian species like the Guam rail, Guam kingfisher and Mariana fruit bat. Results of this project will be used to inform future management decisions for brown tree snake suppression on a larger scale.

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas, MCAG, University of Guam Center for Island Sustainability, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Wildlife Services, USDA National Wildlife Research Center, and U.S. Geological Society are all part of this coordinated interagency conservation project for the planned Marine Corps relocation from Japan to Guam. ***(PR)***

Tax relief for Typhoon Mangkhut victims in NMI

Victims of Typhoon Mangkhut that took place beginning on Sept. 10, 2018, in the Northern Mariana Islands may qualify for tax relief from the Internal Revenue Service.

President Donald Trump has declared that a major disaster exists in the CNMI. Following the recent disaster declaration for individual assistance issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the IRS announced yesterday that affected taxpayers on certain islands will receive tax relief.

Taxpayers concerned about how Typhoon Mangkhut may impact tax filing and payment obligations to the NMI government should contact the CNMI Division of Revenue and Taxation at (670) 664-1000 or a local office on Saipan, Tinian, or Rota. Individuals who reside or have a business on the islands of Rota, Saipan and Tinian may qualify for U.S. tax relief.

The declaration permits the IRS to postpone certain U.S. deadlines for taxpayers who reside or have a business in the disaster area. For instance, certain U.S. deadlines falling on or after Sept. 10, 2018, and before Jan. 31, 2019, are granted additional time to file through Jan. 31, 2019. This includes taxpayers who had a valid U.S. extension to file their 2017 return due to run out on Oct. 15, 2018. It also includes the quarterly U.S. estimated income tax payments due on Sept. 17, 2018 and Jan. 15, 2019, and the quarterly payroll and excise tax returns normally due on Oct. 31, 2018. It also includes U.S. tax-exempt organizations that operate on a calendar-year basis and had an automatic U.S. extension due to run out on Nov. 15, 2018.

In addition, U.S. penalties on payroll and excise tax deposits due on or after Sept. 10, 2018, and before Sept. 25, 2018, will be abated as long as the deposits were made by Sept. 25, 2018.

If an affected taxpayer receives a late filing or late payment penalty notice from the IRS that has an original or extended filing, payment or deposit due date that falls within the postponement period, the taxpayer should call the telephone number on the notice to have the IRS abate the penalty.

The IRS automatically identifies taxpayers located in the covered disaster area and applies automatic filing and payment relief. But affected taxpayers who reside or have a business located outside the covered disaster area must call the IRS disaster hotline at 866-562-5227 to request this tax relief.

Affected taxpayers

Taxpayers considered to be affected taxpayers eligible for the postponement of time to file returns, pay taxes and perform other time-sensitive acts are those taxpayers listed in Treas. Reg. § 301.7508A-1(d)(1), and include individuals who live, and businesses (including tax-exempt organizations) whose principal place of business is located, in the covered disaster area. Taxpayers not in the covered disaster area, but whose records necessary to meet a deadline listed in Treas. Reg. § 301.7508A-1(c) are in the covered disaster area, are also entitled to relief. In addition, all relief workers affiliated with a recognized government or philanthropic organization assisting in the relief activities in the covered disaster area and any individual visiting the covered disaster area who was killed or injured as a result of the disaster are entitled to relief.

Grant of relief

Under section 7508A, the IRS gives affected taxpayers until Jan. 31, 2019, to file most tax returns (including individual, corporate, and estate and trust income tax returns; partnership returns, S corporation returns, and trust returns; estate, gift, and generation-skipping transfer tax returns; and employment and certain excise tax returns annual information returns of tax-exempt organizations; and employment and certain excise tax returns), that have either an original or extended due date occurring on or after Sept. 10, 2018 and before Jan. 31, 2019.

Affected taxpayers that have an estimated income tax payment originally due on or after Sept. 10, 2018 and before Jan. 31, 2019, will not be subject to penalties for failure to pay estimated tax installments as long as such payments are paid on or before Jan. 31, 2019. The IRS also gives affected taxpayers until Jan. 31, 2019 to perform other time-sensitive actions described in Treas. Reg. § 301.7508A-1(c)(1) and Rev. Proc. 2007-56, 2007-34 I.R.B. 388 (Aug. 20, 2007), that are due to the IRS to be performed on or after Sept. 10, 2018 and before Jan. 31, 2019.

This relief also includes the filing of Form 5500 series returns, (that were required to be filed with the IRS on or after Sept. 10, 2018 and before Jan. 31, 2019, in the manner described in section 8 of Rev. Proc. 2007-56. The relief described in section 17 of Rev. Proc. 2007-56, pertaining to like-kind exchanges of property, also applies to certain taxpayers who are not otherwise affected taxpayers and may include acts required to be performed before or after the period above.

Unless an act is specifically listed in Rev. Proc. 2007-56, the postponement of time to file and pay does not apply to information returns in the W-2, 1094, 1095, 1097, 1098, or 1099 series; to Forms 1042-S, 3921, 3922 or 8027; or to employment and excise tax deposits. However, penalties on deposits due to the IRS on or after Sept. 10, 2018 and before Sept. 25, 2018, will be abated as long as the tax deposits were made by Sept. 25, 2018.

Casualty losses

Affected taxpayers in a federally declared disaster area have the option of claiming disaster-related casualty losses on their U.S. income tax return for either the year in which the event occurred, or the prior year. See Publication 547 for details.

Individuals may deduct personal property losses that are not covered by insurance or other reimbursements.

Affected taxpayers claiming the disaster loss on a 2017 return should put the Disaster Designation, "Northern Mariana Islands, Typhoon Mangkhut " at the top of the form so that the IRS can expedite the processing of the refund.

Other relief

The IRS will waive the usual fees and expedite requests for copies of previously filed tax returns for affected taxpayers. Taxpayers should put the assigned Disaster Designation "Northern Mariana Islands, Typhoon Mangkhut " in red ink at the top of Form 4506, Request for Copy of Tax Return, or **Form 4506-T,** Request for Transcript of Tax Return, as appropriate, and submit it to the IRS.

Affected taxpayers who are contacted by the IRS on a collection or examination matter should explain how the disaster impacts them so that the IRS can provide appropriate consideration to their case. Taxpayers may download forms and publications from the official IRS website, irs.gov, or order them by calling 800-829-3676. The IRS toll-free number for general tax questions is 800-829-1040. ***(PR)***

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
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KIRK
MERRY CHRISTMAS, CRATCHIT! I'LL RAISE YOUR SALARY... BUT CUT BONUSES AND STOCK AWARDS.
THAT MEANS I'D BE MAKING LESS THAN I'M MAKING RIGHT NOW.
THE GHOSTS NEED TO PAY HIM ANOTHER VISIT.
AMAZON

EDITORIAL

Get tougher on safety laws for stretch limousines

A driver without a proper license, a souped-up limousine that had failed inspection and didn't have proper certification, and a troublesome intersection proved to be a tragic combination in upstate New York this weekend.

And now, in the nation's deadliest transportation accident since 2009, 20 people are dead, including 17 passengers of a stretch limousine that was hired to safely transport them to a birthday celebration.

The horrific accident echoes the July 2015 Cutchogue crash in which four young women were killed when a stretch limousine making a U-turn was hit by a pickup truck. Then, the women were heading to North Fork wineries. This time, this group was going to a Cooperstown brewery. In both cases, young adults trying to be safe by not drinking and driving met death for their efforts.

The tragedy again puts a spotlight on stretch limos, which are often modified after they leave the factory, but inexplicably no longer have to meet the same state and federal vehicle standards for unmodified limousines. After the 2015 crash, the state improved some inspection laws and required the driver and front-seat passenger to wear seat belts. But the holes in the standards remain bigger than the limos themselves.

Federal law, for instance, doesn't require large limousines to have seat belts for those who don't face forward, and most seats do not. Such stretch limos often don't have side air bags, either. Earlier this year, state lawmakers proposed a set of bills that contained additional limo safety measures. They never made it out of committee, in part due to insurance industry pushback.

After the 2015 accident, a Suffolk County grand jury made 24 recommendations, including improvements to the intersection in Cutchogue, as well as asking town, county and state lawmakers, including Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo, for better regulation of the limousine industry. Among the recommendations were changes to civil and criminal laws and tougher standards for drivers. One request was for Cuomo to create a task force to study the safety of stretch limos. On Monday, we couldn't find any information on whether that task force was ever convened.

The limousine involved in Saturday's crash apparently didn't even meet existing standards. Eighty percent of the cars at Prestige Limousine, the company involved, failed inspections. Federal safety inspectors are continuing their investigation, which could include findings of criminal negligence. But we've learned enough already to know that the limo industry must be better regulated when it comes to seat belts, air bags and vehicle structural integrity.

Among the victims of this weekend's tragedy are many who weren't in the limo—five children, as young as 16 months, who will have to live without one or both of their parents, and parents who will have to live without their children. That includes the staggering loss of four daughters and three sons-in-law in one family.

What more will it take before something changes?

(c)2018 *Newsday*

It's the wrong time for a Facebook surveillance device

By SHIRA OVIDE
Bloomberg News

Shira Ovide is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist covering technology. She previously was a reporter for the Wall Street Journal.

Facebook Inc. constantly asks its users how they're feeling about the social network. Those temperature checks of more than 2 billion people must give the company evidence that it has passed the peak of public suspicion stirred by its fumbles in protecting people's digital information, doubts about the company's political motives and scandals about its role as a tool for foreign propagandists, conspiracy theorists and violent mobs.

Facebook knows its audience—or at least it has a lot of information about it. But I think Facebook is still misreading the mood.

Facebook on Monday unveiled two home gadgets for video chats like those on Skype or FaceTime. The company has been working on video conference hardware for some time but decided to put the project on hold earlier this year because of public outrage about Facebook's data-privacy practices.

With the debut of the Portal device and its sibling, the Portal+, the company has apparently decided that now is the right time to persuade Americans to put Facebook microphones, data-harvesting technologies and video cameras inside their homes. To which I say—nope. And also, why?

Offering devices that sit permanently in living rooms and facilitate conversations with friends and family is a different kind of intimate relationship than people already have with Facebook. The company has made technology tweaks to the Portal devices to guard people's privacy. Bloomberg News reported that the microphone and camera can be turned off, and some of the computing functions are done on the devices themselves rather than by firing digital information back-and-forth to Facebook's computer systems. These devices are still too much of a leap of faith right now for Facebook to ask of its users. I can't understand why Facebook is risking the fragile faith of the public and government officials by releasing hardware that seems at best ancillary to its business future. Is now really the right time to pitch Americans on Facebook-branded home surveillance devices? Remember that the company has forever tried to bat down conspiracy theories that it taps smartphone microphones to collect information about people's phone calls and private conversations. CEO Mark Zuckerberg even had to address that question from members of Congress. When people already suspect that Facebook is spying on them, it is a bridge too far to ask them to plant a literal Facebook listening device in their homes.

A Pew Research Center survey conducted in the spring found that a large share of Americans reported taking breaks from using Facebook. Another Pew poll found a majority of Americans of all political affiliations believe social networks censor political speech that the companies find objectionable. In North America, daily use of Facebook has flatlined, although it's not clear that is a result of its image problem. None of this is solid proof that Facebook's many scandals have turned people away from using the social network, but they are data points that people may not like or trust Facebook wholeheartedly.

Again, Facebook may have a better handle on people's faith in Facebook products than anyone else, including me. Or the company may be blind to public sentiment. I was stunned that after months of controversy about how Facebook mishandled people's personal information, Zuckerberg, in an interview in May with Wired, seemed surprised at a question about possible public backlash to a Facebook online dating service he had just announced.

It's possible that even as Zuckerberg and others at Facebook apologize at every turn for violating the public's trust, they still don't really grasp how much they violated the public's trust. It wouldn't be the first time that Facebook's instincts are wrong.

Facebook isn't completely clueless. The company is savvy enough to address doubts up front about data-privacy protections for the Portal devices. Contrast that with Amazon.com Inc., which last month announced a dizzying number of new gadgets powered by the company's Alexa voice-activated software. Amazon didn't devote a single moment to talking about protecting the information of people who elect to put an all-knowing, always-listening Amazon data-harvesting device in their homes and cars. Given the justified public concerns about digital privacy, this was a stunning omission by Amazon.

Facebook has far more baggage than Amazon, of course. Credit Facebook for making its video chat devices less creepy than they could have been, but that doesn't make them creepy-free. The public is already inclined to be wary about Facebook and its intentions. That's why it makes little sense for Facebook to test people's fragile faith when it has relatively little to gain.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

#MeToo: One year down, the rest of our lives to go

BRIAN VAN DER BRUG/LOS ANGELES TIMES/TNS

Phyllis Golden-Gottlieb demonstrates an alleged encounter with former CBS Corp. Chief Leslie Moonves in 1986 with her attorney Gloria Allred. Golden-Gottlieb alleges that Moonves thrust her head into his lap.

By TRICIA BISHOP
The Baltimore Sun

Tricia Bishop is The Baltimore Sun*'s deputy editorial page editor.*

It's been one year since the viral version of the #MeToo movement spread the message that women are not chattel across the globe like a California wildfire, toppling metaphorical redwoods and clearing out the underbrush in its path.

In that time, most state legislatures (including Maryland's) revamped, or at least reviewed, their sexual harassment policies; businesses launched behavior training courses for employees; and millions of dollars were raised to support legal action against perpetrators. Powerful media figures were pushed out of their positions, victims of harassment or assault spoke up, and Americans—86 percent of us—came to the conclusion that a policy of zero-tolerance for sexual harassment is essential to a healthy society, according to a poll commissioned by NPR.

But we still can't tolerate Serena Williams talking back to an umpire in what was arguably the most important game of her life. We can't figure out how to deal with the he-said/she-said nature of sexual assault against a Maryland delegate. And we can't seem to get some people to take this seriously. Case in point: Comedian Louis C.K. thought it was OK to go back to work in August with a short set that included a joke about rape whistles—after admitting last fall to masturbating in front of female colleagues.

Plus ca change, plus c'est la meme chose—the more things change, the more they stay the same.

It feels a bit like we're trapped in a game of Whac-a-Mole, with another problem popping up each time we tamp one down.

With every predator we unmask, another appears. See Harvey Weinstein, Matt Lauer, Al Franken, Les Moonves and so on.

With every law we alter, another is left unchanged. California's legislature this year voted to extend the statute of limitations for filing harassment complaints, for example, but Maryland has yet to mandate the testing of rape kits, despite a shameful backlog.

With every mind we open, many more remain firmly shuttered. Nearly 40 percent of men who participated in a GQ/Glamour poll in April said the #MeToo movement caused them to re-evaluate their past sexual histories, but more than half of the respondents didn't even know what the #MeToo movement was.

And with every bad practice we eliminate, another continues on. Take Miss America (no really, take it, as in away). It may have seemed like a win when the show did away with its swimsuit category, but c'mon, the pageant itself still exists—and the ratings tanked more than usual when contestants kept their clothes on. Unpack that.

So, what now?

We keep on keepin' on.

It's not very satisfying, I know.

Like any good movement, we've got to push beyond the momentum of the catchphrase and do the daily dirty work of enforcing our rights by calling out abuses of power and holding those around us accountable for their actions. And by "we," I mean you and me, because chances are you've experienced sexual harassment if not outright assault, regardless of your gender.

A study conducted earlier this year found that 77 percent of women and 34 percent of men have experienced verbal abuse, and 51 percent of women and 17 percent of men have been sexually touched in an unwelcome way. And even if you haven't, you should do your part to speak up when you see it occurring to others.

That's the way we make real change—by refusing to tolerate the status quo anymore and refusing to look the other way when a colleague, friend or family member behaves inappropriately. The less welcome such actions are, the less likely they are to occur.

Success doesn't always bring happiness

JAMES KEIVOM/NEW YORK DAILY NEWS/TNS

Celebrity chef Anthony Bourdain photographed at Tintol restaurant in New York's Times Square on April 12, 2006. Bourdain was found dead in his hotel room on June 8, 2018 of an apparent suicide.

By LYNNE AGRESS
The Baltimore Sun

Lynne Agress, who teaches in the Odyssey Program of Johns Hopkins, is president of BWB-Business Writing At Its Best Inc. and author of The Feminine Irony *and* Working With Words in Business and Legal

Reading the news—the real, not fake news—and watching it on TV can make many of us unhappy. Famine, wars, innocent children separated from their parents, global warming with its worsening effects on the rise, people hurling insults at one another on a daily basis, a lack of respect toward respectable people; sadly, the list goes on and on and on.

Thus, it is no wonder that many of the most popular books today are on finding happiness, on learning how to be happy. Specifically, there are 209 books on happiness reviewed on Goodreads.com, with "The Art of Happiness" by the Dalai Lama XIV ranked No. 1 and "The Happiness Project" by Gretchen Rubin ranked No. 2.

When I first read in New York Magazine this spring that the most popular course at Yale—indeed the most talked-about college course in America—is called "Psychology and the Good Life" and is simply about being happy, I knew this was no joke.

Not only are college students not happy, but "neither is anyone else," according to Adam Sternbergh, who wrote and researched the article, titled: The Cure for New York Face.

Not surprisingly, the U.S. ranks 18th in a recent U.N. World Happiness Report, behind Finland (No. 1), Canada (No. 7) and Australia (No. 10).

Many people have always believed, myself included, that success—usually professional—equals happiness. Sadly, however, over several days in June, we discovered that two highly successful people, famous designer Kate Spade and celebrity chef Anthony Bourdain, had committed suicide.

Spade was 55; Bourdain, 61. The average life span in the U.S. is now in the 80s; if they had lived, both could have made many more contributions to society.

Nearly 45,000 people committed suicide in 2016; suicide now is considered a leading cause of death along with diabetes and Alzheimer's disease. Not happy news.

So back to Yale's happiness course, which, incidentally, has duplications in other colleges as well, including the University of Pennsylvania. The Yale course lasts four months, with guest lecturers appearing throughout, imparting all sorts of wise words of wisdom. For example, Yale Professor Hedy Kober claims that happiness "doesn't look like winning the lottery." Rather, Ms. Kober explains, happiness "looks much more like sitting quietly and noticing that your life is actually wonderful."

Students are asked to keep a "daily gratitude journal," not a bad assignment. Even something like getting a good parking space, especially when I am in a hurry, makes me grateful. Or, the other night, about to buy a ticket to take the Light Rail to the BSO, a stranger had left a 24-hour ticket on the machine, saving me train fare—a small, but pleasant, surprise.

Certainly, we should be happy—and grateful—when we have worked hard to accomplish something, or, even more importantly, when we've helped someone else accomplish something.

And yet both Spade and Bourdain weren't happy, despite their skills and accomplishments—not everyone can prepare a mouth-watering meal and not everyone can design a distinctively attractive handbag.

Speaking of designer clothes and accessories, I know a woman who shops daily, buying only designer clothes. She has even ordered logo sweatshirts and jackets from Harvard and Yale, even though she herself is not a college graduate. But wearing designer clothes and college shirts still doesn't make her happy as she always seems to be frowning.

Perhaps I should reach out to her. After all, Dr. Alex Lickerman, author of "The Ten Worlds: The New Psychology of Happiness" wrote in a recent article in Psychology Today that the key to happiness is having true friends.

I surely can agree with that.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.
▲89° ▼77°

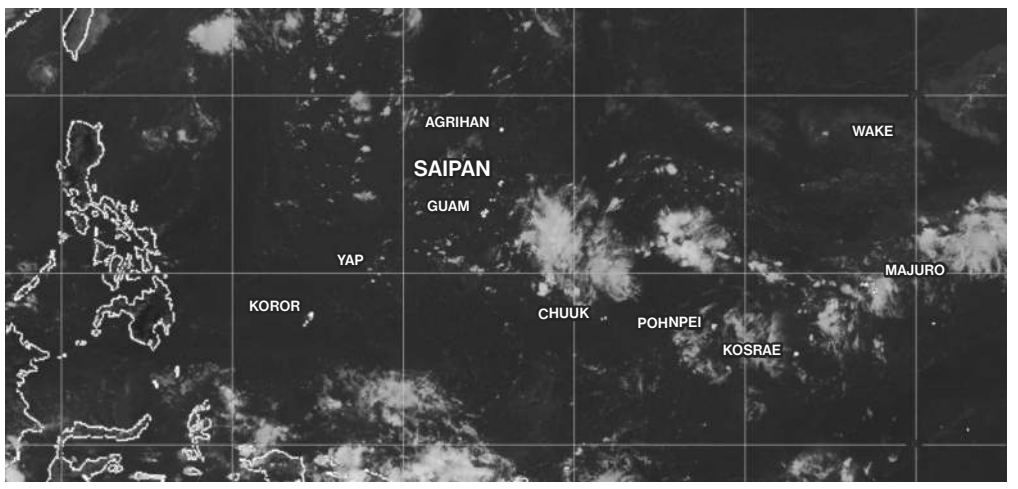
FRIDAY
Mostly cloudy. Isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.
▲90° ▼78°

SATURDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲90° ▼78°

SUNDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼77°

MONDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼77°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:08 AM, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2018
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

No change made to forecast. An upper-level low could be found north of the Marianas this morning. Even though the upper-low is moving away it was still close enough to generate a few thunderstorms over the area this morning. Even though the influence of this upper level feature is waning can`t rule out a more thunderstorms during the day so left isolated showers and thunderstorms in the forecast. Models show only patches of showers tonight and Thursday therefore expect only partly cloudy skies and isolated showers at that time. Trade-wind convergence will produce an increase in clouds starting Thursday night and persisting through Sunday. GFS and NAVGEM hints that the increased clouds may instead be generated just north of a monsoon trough. ECMWF still keeps the east trade-winds over the area. No matter what is the cause, mostly cloudy skies and isolated showers are expected Thursday night through Sunday. High pressure building out over the Northwest Pacific will elevate the winds slightly today through Thursday.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	86° / 80°
Palau	Partly Cloudy	87° / 79°
Yap	Thunderstorms	87° / 81°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	87° / 80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	88° / 77°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	88° / 77°
Majuro	Mostly Sunny	87° / 82°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Rain	61° / 48°
Beijing	Sunny	70° / 39°
Hong Kong	Showers	82° / 73°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	85° / 73°
London	Mostly Sunny	70° / 55°
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	72° / 58°
Manila	Partly Cloudy	91° / 77°
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	73° / 50°
Miami	Thunderstorms	86° / 78°
New York	Thunderstorms	79° / 58°
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	70° / 55°
Paris	Sunny	79° / 59°
Busan	Mostly Sunny	66° / 54°
Rome	Mostly Sunny	77° / 57°
Salem	Partly Cloudy	80° / 56°
San Francisco	Sunny	62° / 54°
Seoul	Sunny	63° / 41°
Tokyo	Showers	72° / 59°
Washington, DC	Thunderstorms	79° / 57°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
2:58 AM	LOW TIDE	0.01
9:11 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.97
3:19 PM	LOW TIDE	0.65
8:45 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.94

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:07 AM	5:59 PM
Friday	6:08 AM	5:58 PM
Saturday	6:08 AM	5:58 PM
Sunday	6:08 AM	5:57 PM
Monday	6:08 AM	5:56 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	7:47 AM	7:46 PM	-
Friday	8:42 AM	8:31 PM	-
Saturday	9:36 AM	9:18 PM	-
Sunday	10:28 AM	10:05 PM	-
Monday	11:20 AM	10:54 PM	-

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 26, 2018

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA105	4:55am	5:41am	3, 5
UA117	8:45am	9:30am	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	7:00am	7:45am	Daily
UA104	11:30pm	12:16am+1	2, 4

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW9308	1:10am	4:10am	3, 4
TW308	1:35am	5:20am	Daily
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
TW9308	3:20am	6:30am	2
TW9308	3:25am	6:30am	5
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:10pm	7:45pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	9:30am	3:10pm	Daily
TW9307	6:30pm	12:10am+1	2, 3
TW307	7:00pm	12:35am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
TW307	7:05pm	12:35am+1	1
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
OZ625	8:40pm	2:10am+1	7
TW9307	9:00pm	2:20am+1	1
TW9307	9:05pm	2:25am+1	4
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:30am	1, 4, 5, 7

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:30pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:30am	11:00am	1
JD396	4:50pm	7:55pm	4

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:05am	3:30pm	4
JD395	9:35pm	5:00am+1	7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:35am	2, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	8:20pm	2:50am+1	1, 5

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:00am	3, 5, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:55pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA117/183	8:45am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA117/183	8:45am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA117/193	8:45am	10:40pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	2:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA192/174	9:45pm	7:45am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA184/174 via GUM	10:25pm	7:45am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7
PR110/UA174	10:55pm	7:45am+1	Daily via GUM
UA184/174	11:30pm	7:45am+1	2, 5 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:40am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:30am	8:25am	1
UO43	6:00am	8:40am	3, 5, 7
UA117/159	8:45am	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	2:10am+1	7 via ICN
HX076	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:25pm	1:25am+1	7
UO42	9:25pm	4:30am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/174	10:45pm	7:45am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

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SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

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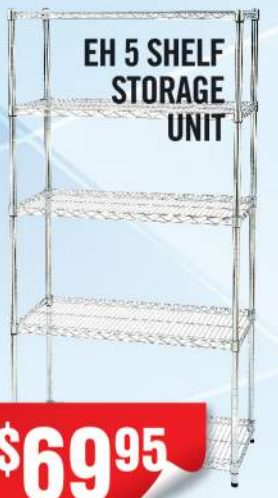

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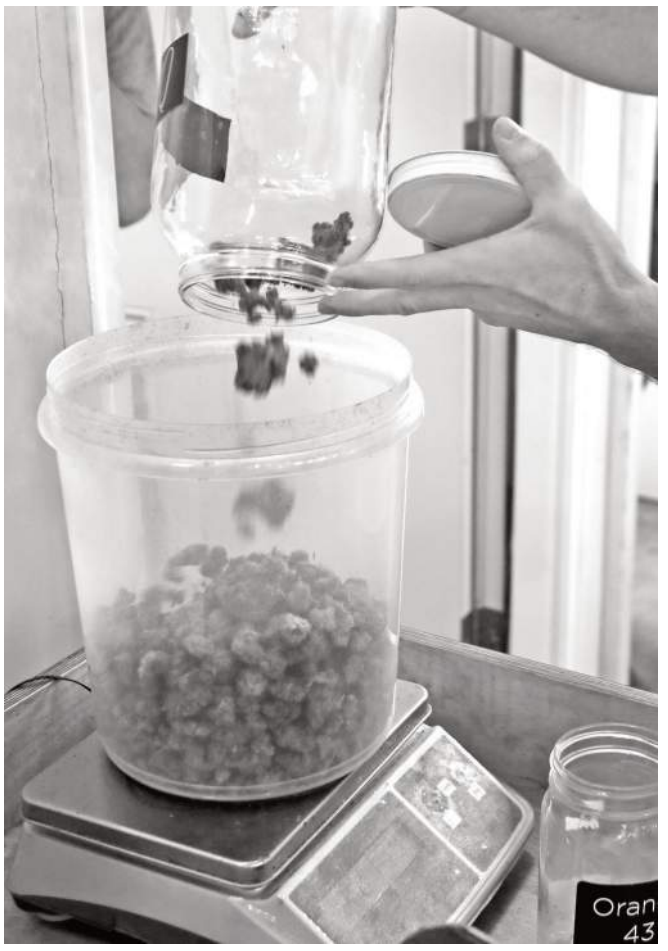
MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

Business

4 states to decide on pot ballot initiatives this fall

Nine states have legalized marijuana for so-called recreational use since 2012, including eight at the ballot box. Thirty-one states have authorized the drug for medical purposes. Four states have marijuana ballot questions this fall. Here's a look at them:



In this Tuesday, Oct. 2, 2018, photo, a worker weighs a sample of marijuana for inventory purposes at Utopia Gardens, a medical marijuana dispensary, in Detroit. AP

MICHIGAN

The proposal would amend state law to make recreational marijuana legal a decade after voters approved it medically. People 21 and older could possess up to 2.5 ounces (71 grams) of marijuana outside their home or up to 10 ounces (283 grams) within their residence, where they could grow up to 12 plants.

A 10 percent tax on marijuana would be assessed by retailers, on top of the 6 percent state sales tax. Seventy percent of the revenue would be split between K-12 schools and road projects. Municipalities that authorize marijuana businesses would get 15 percent, and affected counties would receive 15 percent. There would be six categories of state-licensed marijuana businesses: retailers, testing facilities, transporters, processors, microbusinesses and growers.

People under 21 who possess marijuana would be assessed a civil infraction. Employers still could fire or take other disciplinary measures against employees for working while under the influence of marijuana. Smoking or consuming marijuana while driving or in a public place would remain illegal.

MISSOURI

Three measures would allow patients with cancer, epilepsy and a variety of other conditions access to medical marijuana. Two would change the state constitution; the third would amend state law. If all three pass, constitutional amendments take precedence over state law, and whichever amendment receives the most votes would overrule the other.

One constitutional amendment would impose a 4 percent tax on the retail sale of marijuana, with the revenue going to health and care services for military veterans and to administer the licensing of medical marijuana businesses.

The other constitutional amendment would assess a 15 percent tax at the retail level while cultivation facilities would impose a separate wholesale tax on marijuana flowers and leaves. The revenue would fund a state institute to research cures for cancers and other diseases.

The third proposal would assess a 2 percent retail tax to be used for veteran services, drug treatment, early childhood education and public safety in cities with medical marijuana facilities.

NORTH DAKOTA

The initiative would change state law to legalize marijuana for recreational use two years after voters allowed medical use. It would decriminalize non-violent marijuana-related activity for people 21 and older, including for growing, manufacturing, distributing, selling or testing the drug. Nearly 180,000 criminal records of those previously convicted of marijuana-related crimes would be required to be quickly expunged and sealed by the courts.

The proposal would not limit how much marijuana could be possessed, nor would it impose an additional tax on pot. A licensing system for businesses would not be spelled out under the measure, though the state is in the process of registering medical marijuana dispensaries. Unlike in Michigan, the nation's biggest pro-legalization groups so far have not committed money toward the North Dakota effort.

UTAH

People will vote on medical marijuana, but politicians, advocates and the Mormon church last week made a deal to legalize it under strict regulations regardless of how the ballot proposal turns out. If it passes, it will be revised under the terms of the agreement. If it fails, legislative leaders say they will get a new compromise law passed by the end of the year.

The deal creates a private, state-regulated growing and dispensing operation to allow people with certain medical conditions to use the drug in limited edible forms like chewable gummies, topical lotions or balms, as oils or in devices similar to electronic cigarettes.

Unlike other medical marijuana states, Utah's proposal would not allow pot smoking or for residents to grow their own. Marijuana would be exempt from state and local sales taxes. Utah's Legislature and governor earlier this year enacted a more limited law making it legal for people to use the drug if a doctor has determined they have six months or less to live. ***(AP)***

Nation

UN's Nikki Haley to leave in latest Trump shake-up

WASHINGTON (AP)—In the latest shake-up for President Donald Trump's turbulent administration, U.N. Ambassador Nikki Haley abruptly announced Tuesday she is resigning at the end of the year, raising fresh questions about the Trump team and about the outspoken diplomat's own political ambitions.

The news blindsided some key U.S. allies and many congressional Republicans involved in foreign policy matters. And it came less than a month before congressional elections, thwarting White House efforts to project an image of stability, with the loss of one of the highest-profile women in the administration at a time when women's votes are being vigorously pursued.

Haley

But Haley, the former South Carolina governor, has often been an unpredictable and independent force in the Trump administration. At times she has offered strikingly different perspectives on world events from her more isolationist-minded boss.

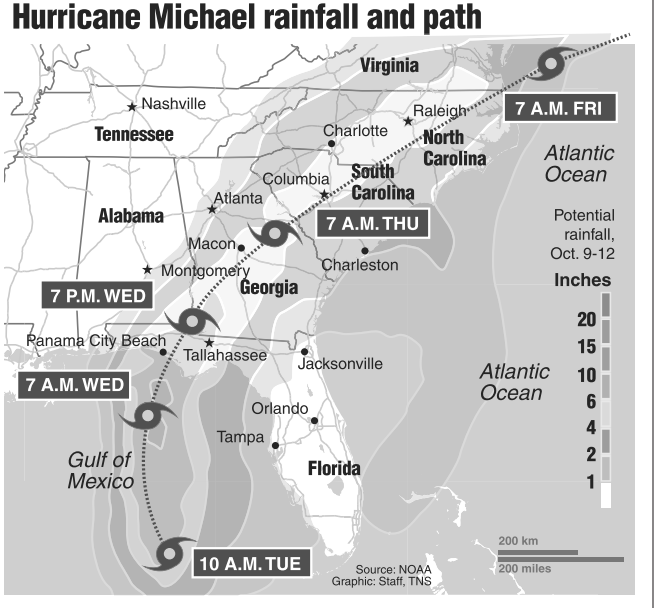
Hurricane bearing down on Florida

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP)—A fast and furious Hurricane Michael sped toward the Florida Panhandle on Tuesday night with 120 mph winds and a potential storm surge of 13 feet, giving tens of thousands of people precious little time to get out or board up.

Drawing energy from the warm waters of the Gulf of Mexico, the storm strengthened rapidly into a potentially devastating Category 3 and was getting much better organized after nightfall. Forecasters said Michael could be near a very dangerous Category 4 by landfall, with further strengthening expected overnibght.

It was expected to blow ashore around midday Wednesday near Panama City Beach, along a lightly populated stretch of fishing villages and white-sand spring-break beaches.

While Florence took five days between the time it turned into a hurricane and the moment it rolled into the Carolinas, Michael gave Florida what amounted to two days' notice. It developed into a hurricane on Monday, and by Tuesday, more than 180,000 people were under mandatory evacuation orders.



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"We don't know if it's going to wipe out our house or not," Jason McDonald, of Panama City, said as he and his wife drove north into Alabama with their two children, ages 5 and 7. "We want to get them out of the way."

Coastal residents rushed to board up their homes and stock up on bottled water and other supplies.

Limo driver's family believes he was given unsafe vehicle

SCHOHARIE, N.Y. (AP)—Relatives of the limousine driver involved in a crash that killed 20 people in upstate New York said Tuesday they believe he was unwittingly assigned an unsafe vehicle.

The family of Scott Lisinicchia released a statement through a lawyer shortly after another attorney representing the limousine company, Prestige Limousine, said the driver might have been unfamiliar with the rural road.

Lisinicchia was driving the limousine that ran through a stop sign Saturday at the bottom of a T-intersection on a rural road 25 miles west of Albany. Two pedestrians and all 18 people in the limo celebrating a woman's birthday died.

Source: AP
Graphic: Staff, TNS

The statement from Lisinicchia's lawyer said he would never have "knowingly put others in harm's way" and cautioned against jumping to conclusions.

"The family believes that unbeknownst to him he was provided with a vehicle that was neither roadworthy nor safe for any of its occupants," according to the statement from Grant & Longworth.

Prestige Limousine has been criticized for maintaining vehicles rife with violations and for employing a driver lacking a commercial license. The deadly crash also has shined fresh light on the business owner, a former FBI informant.

Asia

Philippine president: Tests show 'I don't have cancer'

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte said Tuesday that medical tests show he doesn't have cancer, but added that he won't release a detailed report on his health.

"I'm not yet cancerous so do not be afraid to go near me. I will not contaminate you," the 73-year-old leader told a journalist in jest during a news conference. When asked if tissue samples taken from him tested negative for cancer, the president nodded.

Interior officer in charge Eduardo Ano earlier told reporters that Duterte announced his test results in a Cabinet meeting Monday night, eliciting applause from top officials. Ano said the president looked well and attended back-to-back meetings Monday.

"We can drink now, really. I'll give you a run for your money," Duterte told a journalist. He denied speculation he flew to Hong Kong over the weekend to seek treatment, saying he went there with his family to buy larger clothes because he had gained weight.

Duterte

Duterte said in a speech last week that he might have cancer and was awaiting test results, adding to growing uncertainty about his health.

Duterte failed to hold a scheduled Cabinet meeting and skipped another ceremony last Wednesday, leading to speculation that he had been hospitalized. His spokesman, Harry Roque, denied that.

Rumors have swirled since last year that Duterte might have a serious illness. Duterte and his aides, however, have given assurances that he's generally fit, although he had said in recent months that he had grown tired of politics, including deeply entrenched government corruption and the country's drug problem.

Duterte took office in June 2016 for a six-year term. He is known for his deadly crackdown on illegal drugs, which has drawn international condemnation.

He has said in the past that he has various ailments, including recurring migraines, as a result of a motorcycle accident and drinking. But he said his most serious ailment is Barrett's esophagus, a condition thought to be caused by stomach acid washing up into the esophagus. That may have been caused by his drinking, which he continued despite warnings from his doctors, he said.

Duterte said he underwent an endoscopy and colonoscopy about a month ago but his doctor was advised recently to repeat the tests. Both tests aim to diagnose any abnormality in the digestive tract and colon.

China concerned about US drill during Xi's Philippine visit

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—China has raised concerns about a joint U.S.-Philippine military exercise that coincides with Chinese President Xi Jinping's visit to the country in November, a Philippine official said Tuesday.

Presidential spokesman Harry Roque said Chinese Ambassador Zhao Jianhua raised the concern in a meeting Monday with President Rodrigo Duterte, who assured the Chinese envoy that the Philippines would not take part in the military maneuvers.

"China of course expressed concern over a naval, a military exercise that the United States will be conducting in the area at about the same time that the Chinese President will be in the Philippines," Roque told a televised news conference.

Roque did not elaborate on what particular drill China was concerned about. Philippine military officials said they're unaware of any U.S. military exercise with Filipino forces next month.

The Philippine government will ensure that nothing will mar Xi's first visit to the country, which both sides agree will "further cement" their already-strong relations, Roque said.

The Department of Foreign Affairs in Manila "wiill do all that it can to make sure that President Xi's visit will be fruitful and as productive as we would want it to be," he said.

After taking office in 2016, Duterte worked to repair relations with China which had been damaged by the two countries' territorial disputes in the South China Sea. He announced early in his presidency that he would end annual combat drills with the U.S. military in an effort not to offend China, but the drills have continued.

China has opposed American-led military exercises, especially in the disputed waters, accusing Washington of intervening in a purely Asian dispute. The U.S. has pressed on with the exercises and military patrols to promote freedom of navigation and overflight in the South China Sea.

Seoul: Kim Jong Un wants pope to visit N. Korea

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korean leader Kim Jong Un wants Pope Francis to visit the officially atheist country, South Korea said Tuesday.

South Korea's presidential office said in a statement that Kim told President Moon Jae-in during their summit last month that the pope would be "enthusiastically" welcomed in North Korea.

Kim has been intensely engaged in diplomacy in recent months in what's seen as an effort to leverage his nuclear weapons program for an easing of economic sanctions and military pressure.

North Korea strictly controls the religious activities of its people, and a similar invitation for then-Pope John Paul II to visit after a 2000 inter-Korean summit never resulted in a meeting. The Vatican insisted at the time that a papal visit would only be possible if Catholic priests were accepted in North Korea.

Moon plans to convey Kim's desire for a papal visit when he travels to the Vatican next week. Moon said on Monday that he expects Kim to visit Russia soon and possibly hold a summit with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.

The Vatican did not comment on the possibility of a papal visit. But immediately after the news, the Vatican press office released a statement confirming that the pope would receive South Korea's president in an audience at the Vatican on Oct. 18.

Vatican spokesman Greg Burke said the audience will come a day after the Vatican secretary of state, Cardinal Pietro Parolin, celebrates a Mass for peace on the Korean Peninsula in St. Peter's Basilica, where Moon will participate.

Francis visited South Korea in August 2014.

World

Turkey to search Saudi Consulate in Istanbul for missing journalist

AP

In this Feb. 1, 2015, file photo, Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi speaks during a press conference in Manama, Bahrain.

WASHINGTON (AP)—Turkish claims that a well-known Saudi writer and government critic was slain inside his country's diplomatic mission in Turkey have put the Trump administration in a delicate spot.

Members of Congress have grown increasingly insistent in recent days that the administration get to the bottom of the disappearance of Jamal Khashoggi, a writer for The Washington Post. He had apparently drawn the wrath of the Saudi government, which has become an ever-closer U.S. ally under President Donald Trump.

Angry lawmakers likely won't cause the administration to turn away from Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman. But they could throw a wrench into arms sales that require their approval and demand the U.S. scale back support for the Saudi military campaign against Iran-backed rebels in Yemen.

Republican Sen. Lindsey Graham of South Carolina has warned that if there was any truth to the allegations of wrongdoing by the Saudi government, it would be "devastating" to the U.S.-Saudi relationship. Sens. Chris Coons, D-Del., and Thom Tillis, R-N.C., said the disappearance of the journalist sends a "chilling message" and called for the Saudis to "immediately investigate and verify Jamal's location."

Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., a longtime critic of the Saudi government, went further. He said he'll try to force a vote in the Senate this week blocking U.S. arms sales to Saudi Arabia. He told local radio in his home state that he wants to end the arms shipments if there's "any indication" the Saudis are "implicated in killing this journalist that was critical of them."

Saudi Arabia denies involvement in Khashoggi's disappearance, and the Trump's administration's response has been far more cautious than that coming from Capitol Hill.

The administration has expressed concern but has refused to even to entertain questions about what the consequences would be if Turkish allegations turn out to be true — that the 59-year-old journalist was killed inside the Saudi consulate in Istanbul after entering it on Oct. 2 to get routine paperwork for his marriage while his Turkish fiancé waited outside.

"We don't know what has happened to him. We don't have any information on that," State Department spokeswoman Heather Nauert told reporters Tuesday. "That's why I want to say, we don't want to make any judgments about what happened, and we call for a thorough and transparent investigation."

The Washington Post said it has repeatedly asked the Saudi and Turkish governments for information about Khashoggi's whereabouts and has not received any satisfactory answers. "Instead, reports about Jamal's fate have suggested he was a victim of state-sponsored, cold-blooded murder," CEO and publisher Fred Ryan said in a statement late Tuesday. "Silence, denials and delays are not acceptable. We demand to know the truth."

Analysts said there were reasons for skepticism about the Turkish account. Ties between Ankara and Riyadh are at a low point over Turkey's support for Qatar in that country's yearlong dispute with Saudi Arabia and other Gulf nations. Saudi Arabia, a Sunni Muslim power, is also annoyed by Ankara's rapprochement with the kingdom's Shiite archrival, Iran.

The Saudi ambassador to Washington, Prince Khalid bin Salman bin Abdulaziz, described the allegations as "malicious leaks and grim rumors" and said the kingdom is "gravely concerned" about Khashoggi. Saudi officials maintain he left the consulate shortly after entering, although it has failed to provide evidence to support that.

The Trump administration is left with an awkward lack of information about a widely respected writer who had been living in self-imposed exile in the U.S. for the past year after fleeing a crackdown on intellectuals and activists in Saudi Arabia. Nauert said Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and other U.S. diplomats have been engaged on the issue and that Trump himself — he said Tuesday he "knows nothing" about what happened to Khashoggi — intends to speak to the Saudis.

Focus

FROM SQUALID REFUGEE CAMP

Rohingya teen plans for higher ed

By RISHABH R. JAIN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

KUTUPALONG, Bangladesh (AP)—At an age when many young Rohingya women have children, Rahima Akter has other plans.

From the refugee camp in southern Bangladesh where she was born, Akter, a 19-year-old with a confident smile who goes by the name Khushi, says she aspires to become the most educated Rohingya woman in the world.

Akter was born and has lived her whole life in the camp, a makeshift settlement of bamboo and tarpaulin huts spread out over rolling hills that were once protected forestland.

Her parents were among a wave of 250,000 Rohingya Muslims who escaped forced labor, religious persecution and violent attacks from Buddhist mobs in Myanmar during the early 1990s.

She sees education as her ticket out of the camp.

"If we take education then we will be able to lead our life as a life," she said.

Akter has supplemented her family's income by working as a translator for aid groups and journalists responding to a new influx of Rohingya refugees who have flooded the camp since August 2017, when the Myanmar military and Buddhist mobs began "clearance operations" against Rohingya in retaliation for insurgent attacks on security posts in Myanmar's Rakhine state.

A United Nations fact-finding mission reported last month that at least 10,000 Rohingya are believed to have died in the violence. The U.N. has called for Myanmar's top military generals to be prosecuted for genocide and crimes against humanity.

But while the Rohingya have found a measure of safety in southern Bangladesh, access to education is far from assured.

Akter said she is among only a few Rohingya refugee girls to have completed the Bangladeshi equivalent of high school, a feat she could only achieve by sneaking past the camp's checkpoints and bribing Bangladeshi public school officials for a placement.

More than 1,200 temporary schools teach English, math, Burmese, science and the arts to about 140,000 children between the ages of 6 and 14, just over a quarter of the more than half a million refugee children living in the camp, according to UNICEF.

But the schooling only goes up to 5th grade, so Akter and other refugees have had to secretly enroll in schools in Cox's Bazar or other towns to complete their studies.

Because of the limited educational opportunities for them, UNICEF calls the refugee children "a lost generation."

"The international community has failed these children," UNICEF spokesman Sakil Faizullah said, adding that the agency plans to start offering basic classes for older refugee students on the assumption they will receive formal education when they return to Myanmar.

But in the current anti-Rohingya climate in Myanmar, Akter said her family's return has not been possible.

In order to go to school, Akter said she disguised her Rohingya identity by speaking only in Bengali, and dressing like a Bangladeshi girl.

But it was the battles she had to fight at home that were the most challenging, she said.

Most Rohingya girls are expected to get married by the age of 16, and sometimes as early as 14. She had to fight off her father who said her time for marriage had come.

Akter cried for days and begged her parents with hands clasped to let her continue studying.

Her mother, Minara Begum, a refugee who fled Myanmar as a child and never attended school, not only convinced her husband to let their eldest daughter study, but also fought off rebukes from the elders in her community who warned that sending girls out into the world was a sin.

"I told them 'let Allah punish me then,'" Begum said. "What about our lives as refugees that have gone in vain because of our illiteracy? If I can help my children get a better future by education, then that is what I am going to do."

Begum now sends three of her four daughters to school and hopes to educate her youngest daughter and only son as well. Akter and two of her sisters live on their own near the school in Cox's Bazar, about two hours' drive from the camp. Akter's sisters were able to enroll in the Bangladeshi school after she had secured a place for herself there.

Begum said the family has skimped on food to cover the costs of sending the children to school, hoping that they can build a future for themselves that is not bound by the stigma of being a refugee.

"We are Rohingya. There is no land under our feet. We have no future. We are in the same situation as chicken in a cage," Begum said, adding that they "can't even claim ownership over the fruit from a tree that we planted."

Begum's dedication to her children's education seems to be paying off already. Akter now earns more money than the rest of her family's income combined.

While she is mostly busy preparing university applications, Akter also spends time going door-to-door at the expansive camp, documenting accounts of people who fled Myanmar last year.

She hopes to eventually publish her research when she is in college, where she plans to study human rights.

"Why do people have to lead their lives in such a situation?" she said. "One day maybe I'll be able to raise up my voice about human rights for the Rohingya."

In this Aug. 27, 2018, photo, Rohingya refugee woman Minara Begum, mother of Rahima Akter, holds her youngest daughter Arohi Zannat inside the family hut in Kutupalong refugee camp, Bangladesh. AP

In this Aug. 26, 2018, photo, a Rohingya refugee girl stands by a fence at Kutupalong refugee camp, Bangladesh. AP

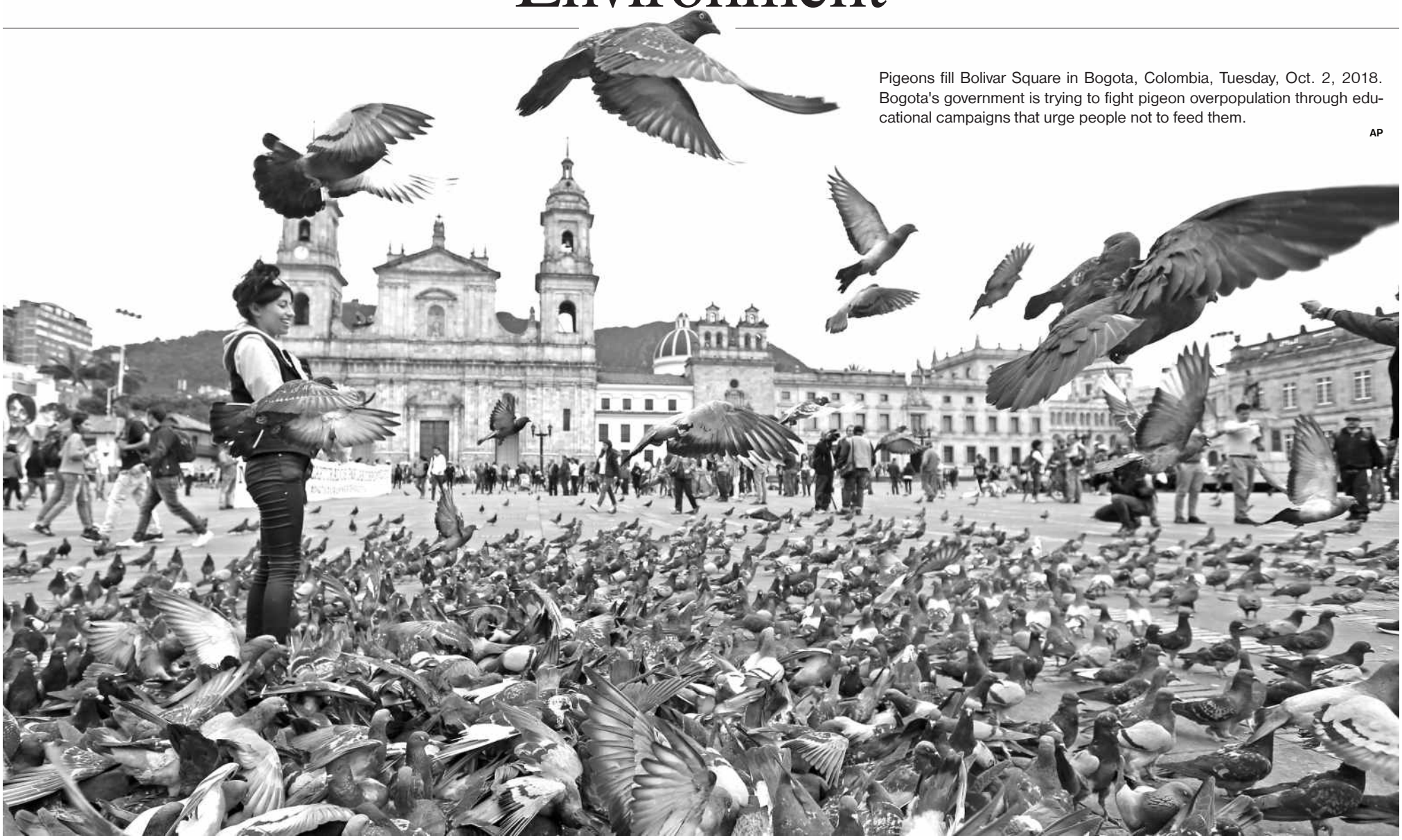
In this Aug. 23, 2018, photo, a Rohingya refugee woman sits under an umbrella as she sells fruit at a playground in Kutupalong refugee camp, Bangladesh. AP

In this Aug. 28, 2018, photo, a Rohingya refugee girl sells vegetables in Kutupalong refugee camp, Bangladesh. AP

In this Aug. 27, 2018, photo, Rohingya refugee children attend a UNICEF-run school in Balukhali refugee camp, Bangladesh. AP

In this Aug. 27, 2018, photo, Rohingya refugee children attend a UNICEF-run school in Balukhali refugee camp, Bangladesh. AP

Environment



Pigeons fill Bolivar Square in Bogota, Colombia, Tuesday, Oct. 2, 2018. Bogota's government is trying to fight pigeon overpopulation through educational campaigns that urge people not to feed them.

AP

Bogota implores tourists to stop feeding pigeons

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP)—On a bright Sunday afternoon, a group of government workers walked around Bogota's most famous square dressed as pigeons, with cardboard beaks covering their noses, as thousands of real birds swarmed overhead and left their droppings on stately monuments.

Flapping their plastic wings and performing brief skits, they urged curious pedestrians not to feed the large flocks that descend each day onto Plaza Bolivar, a grand colonial era square flanked by a Roman Catholic cathedral and Colombia's elegant congressional building.

"There are too many pigeons here," said Mauricio Cano, a biologist who led the group of bird impersonators. "Feeding them is bad for people, and for the birds."

While London has tried to scare unruly pigeons away from train stations by deploying menacing hawks, and Paris has employed contraceptive methods to limit flock sizes, Bogota's government is trying to fight pigeon overpopulation through educational campaigns that urge people not to feed them.

Officials believe that if people stop nourishing the birds, they will stop concentrating in public squares where their droppings sully historical buildings and put people's health at risk. If the birds, which aren't native to Colombia, don't gather in large numbers their rate of reproduction is also likely to decrease.

"We do not want to annihilate these pigeons," says Clara Sandoval, the director of Bogota's animal protection department. "But we need people to give them a chance to return to their natural behavior."

A study conducted by city biologists found that the square's pigeon population doubles on weekends to 3,400 birds as the number of tourists who visit the square's iconic sites also swells.

"In some areas (of the plaza) you can find up to 33 pigeons per square meter," Cano said.

But convincing people not to give the birds food has proven tricky.

Feeding pigeons corn and taking a photo with them in Bolivar Square has been something of a local tradition for decades.

It also sustains a dozen or so street vendors who sell small bags of pigeon feed for about $1 each.

"I've raised four children with this job" said Lilly Portilla, who has been plying the trade in the plaza for 25 years. "The pigeons have been here a long time, so why is it that all of a sudden the mayor comes here to tell us they are dirty?"

Bogota's government is offering vendors like Portilla stalls in public buildings, so that they can sell snacks to office workers, instead of pigeon feed to tourists. It's also offering job skills training children of vendors so that they have options other than following their parents into the business.

But some vendors say they haven't been included in the job placement program. And others are not convinced that selling snacks to humans will be as profitable as their current job.

"I would only leave this job if the government gave me a retirement pension," said Luz Melia Rodriguez, 65, who said she has been selling pigeon feed for 50 years. "When you reach my age it's quite hard to change careers."

Berlin ordered to institute partial diesel vehicle ban

BERLIN (AP) — A Berlin court has ordered the city to ban older diesel vehicles from several downtown streets to reduce nitrogen dioxide levels in the German capital.

The Berlin administrative court on Tuesday ruled in favor of a suit brought by the environmental lobby group DUH, saying that the city-state's pollution reduction plan had been insufficient.

The decision comes as the federal government seeks to avoid ad hoc bans by pushing a plan to get older diesels off the road and upgrade newer ones.

Several cities, including Hamburg, Stuttgart and Frankfurt, have already imposed bans or partial bans after lawsuits.

The Berlin ban, affecting vehicles at the Euro 5 emissions standard or less is to be implemented by the end of next March at the latest. Euro 6 is the latest standard.

UN report on global warming carries life-or-death warning

WASHINGTON (AP)—Preventing an extra single degree of heat could make a life-or-death difference in the next few decades for multitudes of people and ecosystems on this fast-warming planet, an international panel of scientists reported Sunday. But they provide little hope the world will rise to the challenge.

The Nobel Prize-winning Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change issued its gloomy report at a meeting in Incheon, South Korea.

In the 728-page document, the U.N. organization detailed how Earth's weather, health and ecosystems would be in better shape if the world's leaders could somehow limit future human-caused warming to just 0.9 degrees Fahrenheit (a half degree Celsius) from now, instead of the globally agreed-upon goal of 1.8 degrees F (1 degree C). Among other things:

■ Half as many people would suffer from lack of water.

■ There would be fewer deaths and illnesses from heat, smog and infectious diseases.

■ Seas would rise nearly 4 inches (0.1 meters) less.

■ Half as many animals with back bones and plants would lose the majority of their habitats.

■ There would be substantially fewer heat waves, downpours and droughts.

■ The West Antarctic ice sheet might not kick into irreversible melting.

■ And it just may be enough to save most of the world's coral reefs from dying.

"For some people this is a life-or-death situation without a doubt," said Cornell University climate scientist Natalie Mahowald, a lead author on the report.

UN: Tobacco kills not just people, but the environment

GENEVA (AP) — The World Health Organization says smoking not only kills about 7 million people every year, but has a devastating impact on the environment — contributing to deforestation, water and soil damage and acidification.

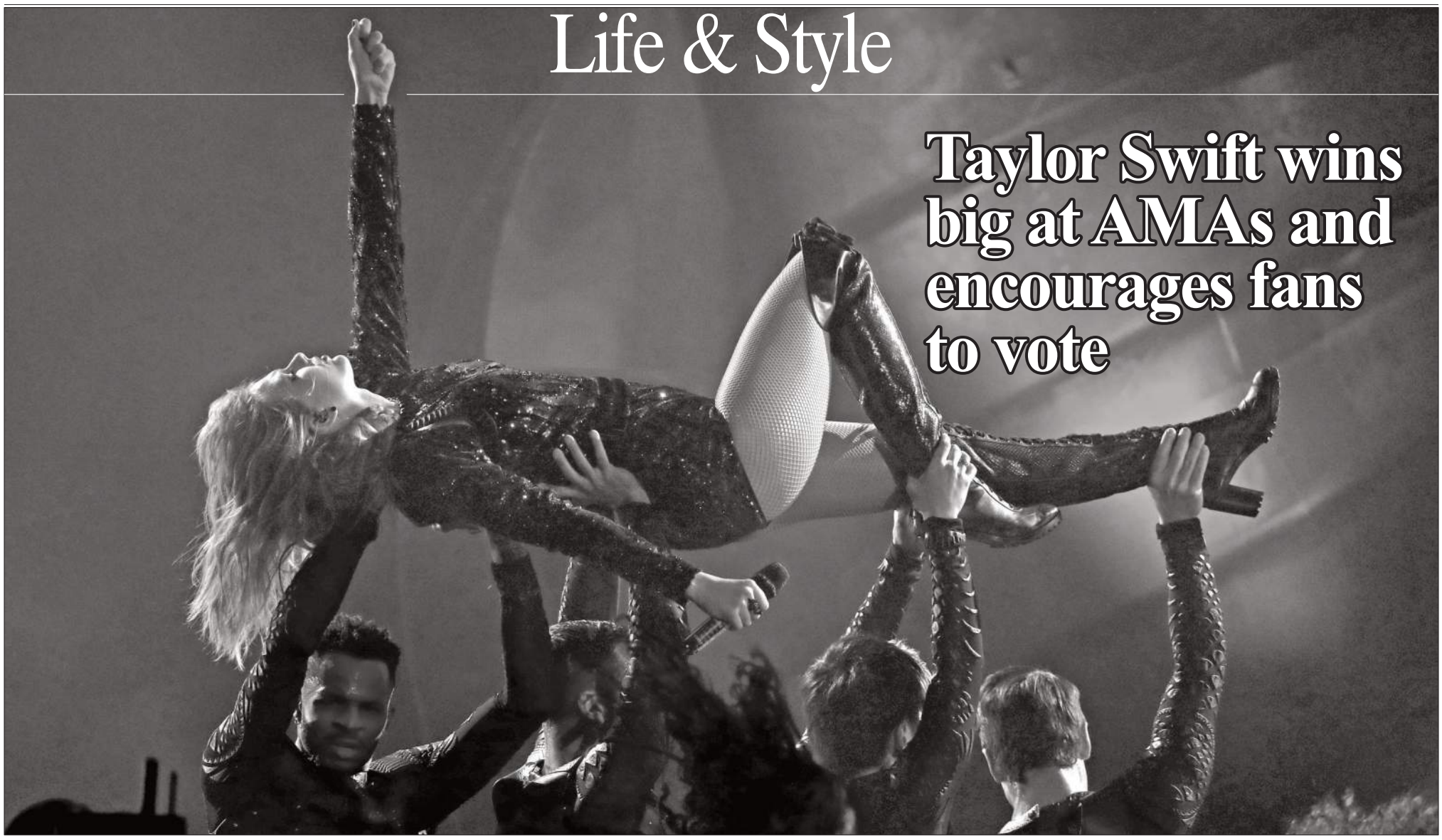
In a new report released on Tuesday, experts warned that the environmental footprint left by tobacco production is comparable to that of entire countries. It said producing the 6 trillion cigarettes made every year hurts the planet more than the mass production of food crops.

Nicholas Hopkinson, one of the report's authors, said cigarettes should be considered an "unethical product" given its toll on the environment.

Experts calculated that a single person smoking a pack of 20 cigarettes per day for 50 years is responsible for 1.4 million liters of water depletion.

Life & Style

Taylor Swift wins big at AMAs and encourages fans to vote



Taylor Swift performs "I Did Something Bad" at the American Music Awards on Tuesday, Oct. 9, 2018, at the Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles. AP

Taylor Swift kicked off her week with a rare political post on social media, and at the American Music Awards she continued the conversation by encouraging fans to vote in the upcoming midterm elections.

Swift won four honors including artist of the year at the fan-voted show on Tuesday in Los Angeles, beating out Drake, Ed Sheeran, Imagine Dragons and Post Malone for the top prize.

"This award and every single award given out tonight were voted on by the people, and you know what else is voted on by the people," she said, "the midterm elections on November 6."

Swift announced on Sunday that she was voting for Tennessee's Democratic Senate candidate Phil Bredesen, breaking her long-standing refusal to discuss anything politics.

Voting was a hot topic at the AMAs. Host and Golden Globe-winning "black-ish" actress Tracee Ellis Ross wore a shirt that said, "I am a voter," and comedian-actor Billy Eichner told the audience, "The biggest election of our lifetime is happening."

"Please grab your friends and tell them to vote. Now is the time. If you believe in equality for women, for people of color, for the LGBTQ community. If you believe that climate change is real and that we need to do something about it," he said onstage before presenting an award.

"And you can go to Vote.org like Taylor Swift told you to," he added.

Swift made history by becoming the most decorated woman in the show's history with a total of 23 AMAs. Despite having the year's top-selling album and three No. 1 hits, Drake didn't win a single award. He did not attend the show but tied Cardi B with most nominations walking into the AMAs.

Swift kicked off the show with a performance of "I Did Something Bad," while Cardi B—who won three honors—picked up the night's first award, favorite hip-hop/rap artist, which she dedicated to her daughter.

"I really want to thank my daughter," said Cardi B, who gave birth to Kulture Kiari Cephus in July. "I gotta prove people wrong. They said I wasn't going to make it after I had a baby."

The rapper hit the stage to give a festive and colorful performance of her No. 1 hit, "I Like It," where she was joined by J Balvin and Bad Bunny, who was wheeled onstage inside a shopping cart. Cardi B's husband, Offset of the rap trio Migos, danced along in the audience with group member Quavo as Cardi B worked the stage with vibrant dance moves, including the salsa.

Cardi B returned the favor, screaming happily when Migos was named favorite pop/rock duo or group, beating out Maroon 5 and Imagine Dragons, later in the show.

"We did not know we was winning this at all," said Quavo, also giving a shout-out to group member Takeoff, who didn't attend the AMAs. ***(AP)***

WINNERS' LIST

A list of the winners at the 2018 American Music Awards, held Tuesday night at the Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles.

- Artist of the year: Taylor Swift
- New artist of the year: Camila Cabello
- Collaboration of the year: "Havana," Camila Cabello featuring Young Thug
- Favorite pop/rock female artist: Taylor Swift
- Favorite pop/rock male artist: Post Malone
- Favorite pop/rock song: "Havana," Camila Cabello featuring Young Thug
- Favorite pop/rock album: "reputation," Taylor Swift
- Favorite rap/hip-hop artist: Cardi B
- Favorite rap/hip-hop song: "Bodak Yellow (Money Moves)," Cardi B
- Favorite rap/hip-hop album: "Beerbongs & Bentleys," Post Malone
- Favorite soul/R&B female artist: Rihanna
- Favorite soul/R&B male artist: Khalid
- Favorite soul/R&B song: "Finesse," Bruno Mars featuring Cardi B
- Favorite soul/R&B album: "17," XXXTentacion
- Favorite country female artist: Carrie Underwood
- Favorite country male artist: Kane Brown
- Favorite country duo or group: Florida Georgia Line
- Favorite country song: "Heaven," Kane Brown
- Favorite country album: "Kane Brown," Kane Brown
- Favorite alternative rock artist: Panic! at the Disco
- Favorite adult contemporary artist: Shawn Mendes
- Favorite Latin artist: Daddy Yankee
- Favorite contemporary inspirational artist: Lauren Daigle
- Favorite electronic dance music artist: Marshmello
- Favorite social artist: BTS
- Favorite music video: "Havana," Camila Cabello featuring Young Thug
- Tour of the year: Taylor Swift
- Top soundtrack: "Black Panther: The Album, Music From And Inspired By" ***(AP)***

Stolen Stradivarius found after decades comes to life again

NEW YORK (AP)—The Stradivarius stolen from the late violinist Roman Totenberg and miraculously found more than three decades later has a new life—under the chin of a budding 18-year-old virtuoso.

On Tuesday in New York, his three daughters presented the multimillion-dollar instrument on long-term loan to Juilliard student Nathan Meltzer.

Jill Totenberg says she and her sisters, Nina and Amy, "can now go to listen to our father"—as if the Polish-born American violinist were playing again.

"And once again, the beautiful, brilliant and throaty voice of that long-stilled violin will thrill audiences in concert halls around the world," says Nina Totenberg, who with her sisters joined Meltzer at Rare Violins in New York, a world-class dealer that restored Totenberg's violin after years of neglect.

The 18th century instrument was snatched in 1980 from Totenberg's dressing room after a concert in Cambridge, Massachusetts. It was recovered in 2015, after his death, among a former student's belongings. The man's ex-wife discovered it and tried to sell it, not knowing it had been stolen until an expert contacted the FBI.

The decadeslong theft saga ended when then-U.S. Attorney Preet Bharara in Manhattan returned the instrument to the Totenberg family familiar with it since they were children.

"It was there when I was born," said Nina Totenberg, the legal affairs correspondent for National Public Radio.

An anonymous benefactor then purchased it and made sure the public would again hear its sound.

The so-called "Ames" Stradivarius—named after a previous owner —"is one of the most fantastic examples of the late work of Antonio Stradivari; it's a large instrument, so it needs somebody who is strong yet gentle to play it," said Bruno Price, the co-founder of Rare Violins. "You need to have the strength to pull out the full sound, but you can't crush it."

A strapping, 6-foot teenager, Meltzer meets those criteria, said Price, adding, "He says the violin is waking up as he plays it."

Meltzer has performed around the United States and abroad, from London and Paris to Israel and Brazil.

The loan to Meltzer, a student of violinist Itzhak Perlman, is part of a program created by Rare Violins of New York to match wealthy benefactors with promising young musicians.

Gunn, fired from 'Guardians,' to write new 'Suicide Squad'

NEW YORK (AP)—James Gunn may have been fired from Marvel's "Guardians of the Galaxy," but DC Comics will welcome him with open arms.

Warner Bros. on Tuesday confirmed that Gunn will write the script to the studio's next installment of "Suicide Squad," the DC supervillain team-up franchise. In July, Disney fired Gunn after jokes involving rape and pedophilia he wrote years earlier on Twitter resurfaced.

The creative force between the two hugely popular "Guardians" films, Gunn's firing prompted its own backlash. The cast issued a statement of support for their writer-director, imploring Disney to reinstate him.

But instead, Gunn will take over "Suicide Squad," the franchise led by Will Smith, Margot Robbie and Jared Leto. The first film, written and directed by David Ayer, earned $747 million in 2016 but drew withering reviews. Gunn is expected to take an entirely new approach, and potentially direct the new "Suicide Squad" installment.

Gunn's tweets, largely from 2009-2012, received renewed attention after Gunn's criticism of President Donald Trump prompted far-right propagandists Mike Cernovich and Jack Posobiec to comb through Gunn's social media history. Gunn apologized.

Gunn

"My words of nearly a decade ago were, at the time, totally failed and unfortunate efforts to be provocative," said Gunn. "I have regretted them for many years since—not just because they were stupid, not at all funny, wildly insensitive, and certainly not provocative like I had hoped, but also because they don't reflect the person I am today or have been for some time."

The "Suicide Squad" job is the first Gunn has taken since departing "Guardians," for which he had been expected to make a third film.

Gunn gives Warner Bros. and DC Comics one of the most fan boy-approved voices in comic book films at a time when Warner Bros. is remaking much of its superhero operations. Gunn's witty, irreverent sensibility turned Marvel's "Guardians of the Galaxy" from little-known minor characters into one Disney's most acclaimed and bankable franchises. The first "Guardians" grossed $773 million and the sequel grossed $863 million.

Nicks, Def Leppard among first-time rock hall nominees

NEW YORK (AP)—Stevie Nicks, who's already in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame as a member of Fleetwood Mac, has been nominated for inclusion as a solo artist next year, along with other first-time nominees Def Leppard, Todd Rundgren, Devo, John Prine and Roxy Music.

Nine other artists are returning to the ballot for another try, including Janet Jackson, Radiohead and The Cure.

Generally, about five to seven nominees each year are voted into the hall, located in Cleveland, Ohio. Past inductees and industry experts vote on who gets in, and fans have a ballot, too. Winners are announced in December, with the 34th annual ceremony scheduled for March 29 at Brooklyn's Barclays Center.

Nicks was inducted with Fleetwood Mac in 1998. But she's maintained an active solo career, with her best-known songs coming in the 1980s, like "Edge of Seventeen," "Stand Back" and the Tom Petty duet, "Stop Draggin' My Heart Around."

The highly polished metal of Def Leppard sold tons of CDs back in the 1980s, led by hits like "Pour Some Sugar on Me" and "Photograph."

Rundgren has been overlooked through the years, despite 1970s-era hits like "Hello It's Me," "I Saw the Light" and "We Gotta Get You a Woman," and his track record as a producer of others' work.

Kanye West to visit Trump, discuss prison reform, violence

WASHINGTON (AP)—Rapper Kanye West has been invited to the White House.

White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders says West is scheduled to have lunch with President Donald Trump on Thursday and meet with Trump's son-in-law, Jared Kushner. Sanders said on Tuesday they'll talk about manufacturing, prison reform, preventing gang violence and reducing violence in Chicago, where West grew up.

Trump recently tweeted praise for West, who closed a "Saturday Night Live" show wearing a "Make America Great Again" hat and delivering an unscripted pro-Trump message after the credits rolled.

West is married to reality television star Kim Kardashian West, who successfully pushed Trump to grant a pardon for a drug offender this year and has met with senior aides regarding criminal justice reform.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Cardi B, Shawn Mendes to perform on Jingle Ball tour

NEW YORK (AP)—Cardi B, Shawn Mendes and Calvin Harris are set to perform on the iHeartRadio Jingle Ball Tour this holiday season. IHeartMedia announced Tuesday the 12-city tour kicks off Nov. 27 in Dallas. The lineup, which varies by city, also includes The Chainsmokers, Meghan Trainor, 5 Seconds of Summer, Bebe Rexha and Camila Cabello. The tour will visit Los Angeles on Nov. 30, San Francisco on Dec. 1, Boston on Dec. 4 and Chicago on Dec. 12. The tour wraps on Dec. 16 in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The Dec. 7 show at New York's Madison Square Garden will livestream on CWTV.com and the CW app and broadcast on the CW Network on Dec. 16. Tickets go on sale Oct. 15. Other performers include Alessia Cara, Khalid, Normani, Dua Lipa, G-Eazy and Bazzi.

Filmmaker Richard Linklater directs anti-Ted Cruz web ad

AUSTIN, Texas (AP)—Filmmaker Richard Linklater is the latest celebrity wading into the tight U.S. Senate race in Texas with a social media ad attacking Republican Sen. Ted Cruz. The "Boyhood" and "Dazed and Confused" director made a 30-second spot for a political action committee backed by Cruz opponents. It doesn't mention Democratic Congressman Beto O'Rourke, who has campaigned on rejecting outside groups' money but can't control their actions. The ad revives a character from Linklater's 2011 film "Bernie," who mocks Cruz for embracing President Donald Trump after the billionaire insulted his family during the 2016 presidential campaign. During a debate in September, Cruz said he put aside personal feelings after the election to do his job. Country music legend Willie Nelson held a concert for O'Rourke last month in Austin.

TV academy's first black chair to step down after 2 years

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The TV academy's first African-American chairman is stepping down after two years. Hayma Washington told Variety he decided against seeking a second two-year term so he could focus on his work as a producer and promote diversity. Washington also has served as chief executive officer of the academy, which administers the Emmy Awards. An academy spokesman said Tuesday that Washington's replacement will be chosen at upcoming elections for new officers and governors. Washington was elected in November 2016. He succeeded Bruce Rosenblum, who held the post for five years. Under Washington, the academy reached a new eight-year contract with the four major networks that air the Emmys in rotation. Viewership hit a record low with last month's ceremony. Washington won seven Emmys as an executive producer of "The Amazing Race."

Young activist to make TV debut as transgender superhero

BANGOR, Maine (AP)—An activist in Maine who won a lawsuit over using the girls' bathroom at her school is making her TV debut as a transgender superhero. The Bangor Daily News reports 21-year-old Nicole Maines will appear on Season 4 of The CW's series "Supergirl" Sunday. The Orono (OR'-uh-noh) native will play Nia Nal, also known as Dreamer. Producers say the character is a "soulful young transgender woman with a fierce drive to protect others." The character is believed to be the first transgender superhero on U.S. television. Maines gained attention for her lawsuit against her school district after her elementary school said she could no longer use the girls' bathroom. Maine's highest court ruled in 2014 that officials violated state anti-discrimination law. Maines has made previous TV appearances, including the show "Royal Pains" and the HBO documentary "The Trans List."

'Perfect' man vanishes when alcohol loosens his tongue

DEAR ABBY: I have been dating the most amazing man for the past 11 months. As we approach the one-year anniversary of the day we met, this "perfect" man is showing some not-so-perfect traits. I was unlucky in love for many years until he swept me off my feet. We have both become extremely close with each other's respective friends and family.

He's everything I have been searching for in a life partner and husband. But when he drinks, he confides his deep fears of dating me and enumerates each and every one of my relationship insecurities -- nagging, anxiety, loneliness, etc. The next day he acts like nothing happened! He swears up and down that it was the alcohol talking and he doesn't mean any of the harsh words he spoke the night before.

Should I believe him? Please don't let me be the naive girl traveling down a dark rabbit hole.

SELF-CONSCIOUS GIRLFRIEND

DEAR GIRLFRIEND: Your "amazing" man appears to be a loose-lipped lush. Not knowing him, I can't guess the degree to which he blacks out when he's been drinking. Some alcoholics don't remember what happened the night before. Others simply don't WANT to remember, so they claim amnesia.

Regardless of how you feel about him, for your own well-being, draw the line and tell him he needs to stop drinking. If he's as alcohol-dependent as I suspect he is, he will give you an argument or an outright refusal. And that's your cue to tell him if he wants a future with you, he will have to make a choice.

DEAR ABBY: My in-laws are angry that I have declined to host them over the holidays this year. My husband is never helpful. When company comes, he sits on his mobile phone while I do everything. I told his parents I can't have them over because all the responsibility falls on me. My "no" should suffice, but my mother-in-law hopes to argue me into hosting.

We don't have children because I knew I would end up raising them alone. I don't want the in-laws here "hinting" that they need us to help them when my husband won't lift a finger.

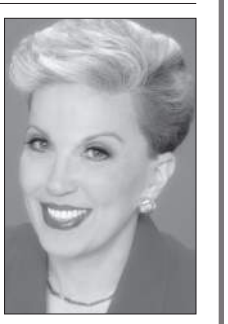
I recently became disabled, and my in-laws keep pressuring me to share my diagnosis with them. They think I should cheerfully do all the work of hosting them as a way to fight my disability!

They are extremely nosy. I am now blocking her calls. I know they will spend their time here trying to get a look at my medications and any financial information left out. What else can I do?

UNMERRY IN LOUISIANA

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR UNMERRY: You should all try to achieve a workable compromise, if that's possible. Ask your MIL if she's prepared to take some of the responsibility off your shoulders if she and her husband visit. Suggest they stay in a hotel or motel rather than burden you. And your husband (their son) should back you up on this.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

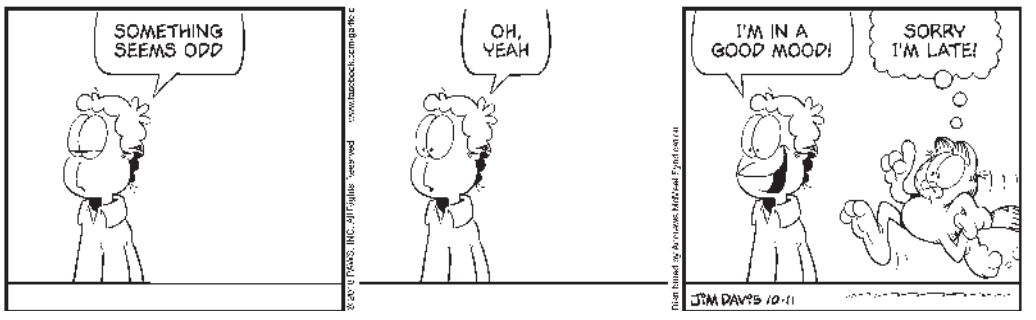
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

I THINK THE WORST OF THIS IS OVER, SO JUST TRY TO GET SOME SLEEP.
I'M GOING BACK TO BED, BUT GIVE ME A CALL IF YOU FEEL SICK AGAIN, OK? NOW GET SOME REST.
MM, HMM.
POOR LITTLE KID.
YECCHHH! THERE IS NOTHING WORSE THAN A SICK ROOMMATE! FACE THAT WAY!
10/11

Garfield®

By Jim Davis



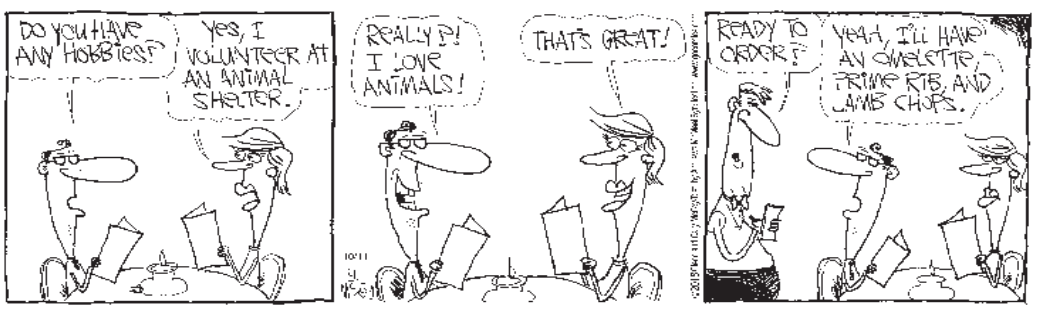
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

"IF YOU USE THE BATHROOM AND IT'S NOT SO NICE..."
"USE A PUFF OR TWO OF OUR CINNAMON SPICE!"
TAP TAP
GROSS.
YET OODLY SATISFYING.
TYPE TAP

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


DO YOU HAVE ANY HOBBIES?
YES, I VOLUNTEER AT AN ANIMAL SHELTER.
REALLY?! I LOVE ANIMALS!
THAT'S GREAT!
READY TO ORDER?
YEAH, I'LL HAVE AN OMELETTE, PRIME RIB, AND LAMB CHOPS.

CROSSWORD

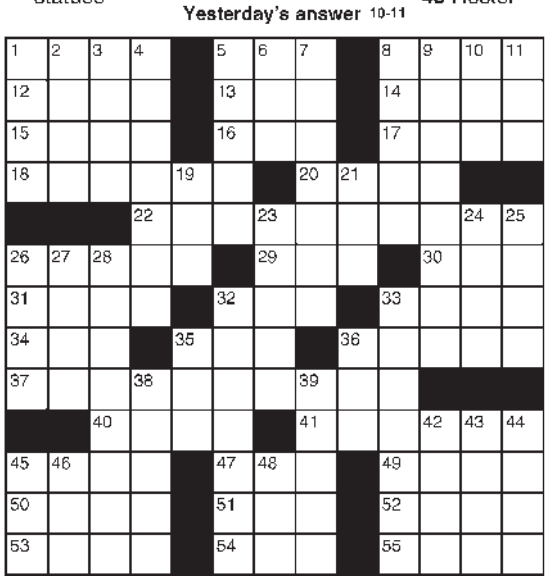
By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Dutch cheese
5 '60s chic
8 Slightly
12 Mentor
13 Bond rating
14 Fancy party
15 Big fusses
16 Samovar
17 Oklahoma city
18 Insurance type
20 Jets or Sharks
22 "Oh yes!"
26 Pizza cookers
29 Identify
30 Tyler of "Jersey Girl"
31 Protracted
32 Scoundrel
33 First-rate
34 State VIP
35 Schedule abbr.
36 Some statues
37 "Oh, yes!"
40 Country singer McCann
41 Hindu retreat
45 Press agent?
47 Up to
49 Dayton's state
50 Superhero's garment
51 Chemical suffix
52 San —, Italy
53 Pitcher
54 Raggedy doll
55 Lip

DOWN
1 "Zounds!"
2 Ranch visitor
3 "East of Eden" son
4 Ford muscle car
5 Manhandles
6 Rowing tool
7 Hung loosely
8 Rep
9 Hybrid fruits
10 Frazier foe
11 June honoree
19 Tummy muscles
21 Summer mo.
23 Dizzying designs
24 Dryer fuzz
25 Saint Laurent of fashion
26 Gymnast Korbut
27 "Va-va-—!"
28 Letter holder
32 Slovenia's neighbor
33 Book makers?
35 Pac. counterpart
36 Some coll. degrees
38 San Francisco gridder
39 Van — ("Jump" band)
42 Ostrich kin
43 Intends
44 Cattle calls?
45 Decorate a cake
46 Cold and damp
48 Hostel

Solution time: 24 mins.

Yesterday's answer 10-11



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Matt Bomer, 41; Emily Deschanel, 42; Luke Perry, 52; Joan Cusack, 56.

Happy Birthday: Review the past, assess the present and consider how to use what you uncover to make the most of your future. Stop wasting time on the things you may have missed out on, and start putting a plan in place that will help you utilize what you know and do best. This is a year of discovery and change. Your numbers are 9, 17, 23, 25, 38, 47, 49.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Volunteer your assistance and get involved in activities that require your skills. What you do to help others will have an influence on how you are treated and what opportunities come your way. A favor you offer now will be repaid. ✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Look forward, not backward. In order to bring about positive changes, it's best to let go of regrets. A clean slate moving forward will expand your vision, encouraging you to live in the moment and embrace the future. ✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Pack as much into your day as possible. What you accomplish will make a difference, and it will ward off those who are looking for fault or reasons to complain. Anger and aggressive behavior are a waste of your time. ✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* You've got more going for you than you realize. Don't be afraid to offer your thoughts and to work alongside people who are unique. Someone from your past will be a reminder of old dreams that you can turn into new possibilities. ✪✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Give more consideration to what others may be experiencing before you say something you may regret. Problems at home or at work will result in unexpected changes. How things unfold will depend on your attitude and your actions. ✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Take some "me" time. Visit someone you find interesting or sign up for a course that will broaden your scope regarding what you want to achieve. Networking functions will lead to ideas, partnerships and new beginnings. Romance is highlighted. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Don't put off what you can do today. You'll feel better once you have laid your to-do list to rest, and you'll ward off complaints from people who like to point out your shortcomings. Hard work deserves a reward. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Emotions will be difficult to control. Consider what others say and do before you retaliate. You'll feel better and accomplish more if you focus on a creative project or something or someone you find unusual or intriguing. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Concentrate on work and do whatever you have to do to earn your keep. Refuse to let someone who is a poor influence interrupt you or convince you to get involved in something that could tarnish your reputation. Avoid meddlers. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Live up to your word. How you conduct your day-to-day affairs will determine how favorably you are received by others. An unexpected or unusual opportunity will change the way you live. Be open to new ideas. ✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Don't be gullible when dealing with friends, peers or relatives. Someone will take advantage of you or put you in an awkward position if you don't stand up for your rights and maintain your integrity. Be a leader, not a follower. ✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* You'll have plenty of opportunities today. Look at the possibilities and consider how they can lead to personal gains. A gift, investment, unexpected find or debt repaid will improve your mood and encourage personal or physical improvements. ✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are intense, passionate and possessive. You are ambitious and unpredictable.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

2				7			5	
		9			8			1
	7			6				
		2			9		7	
5								6
	9			1		8		
					4		9	
1				3		2		
	5			1				8

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/11

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

7	2	3	9	4	5	6	8	1
8	1	9	6	2	7	3	5	4
6	4	5	8	3	1	9	7	2
9	8	4	3	7	6	1	2	5
1	7	6	2	5	9	8	4	3
3	5	2	1	8	4	7	9	6
2	9	8	4	6	3	5	1	7
4	6	7	5	1	8	2	3	9
5	3	1	7	9	2	4	6	8

Difficulty Level ★★★

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

KRIS JENNER **Solution: 13 letters**

S	T	B	R	E	G	A	N	A	M	A	R	Y	J	O
M	R	U	S	D	R	E	A	M	O	T	H	E	R	S
O	A	U	T	H	O	R	E	P	O	L	E	N	E	P
O	V	S	E	U	R	T	R	E	B	O	R	T	L	E
C	I	T	O	S	T	O	R	M	I	S	I	R	Y	C
H	S	N	N	N	N	G	I	E	R	L	H	U	T	I
O	S	I	A	Y	O	A	I	D	E	M	Y	O	S	A
U	C	A	N	T	T	R	I	E	O	L	H	K	W	L
G	O	S	O	G	S	I	T	H	F	E	R	I	N	L
H	T	S	G	S	L	I	L	H	S	I	W	M	Y	L
T	T	C	A	R	S	E	R	A	S	A	L	B	L	A
O	S	O	C	I	A	L	I	T	E	O	D	E	T	D
N	E	R	I	P	M	E	E	C	U	R	B	R	I	N
M	W	E	H	S	A	N	D	I	E	G	O	L	A	E
A	N	Y	C	A	L	A	B	A	S	A	S	Y	C	K

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Author, Bruce, Caitlyn, Calabasas, Cars, Chicago, Corey, Dream, Empire, Houghton, Kardashian, Kendall, Khloe, Kimberly, Kourtney, Kristen, Kylie, Life, Manager, Mary Jo, Mason, Media, Mother, North, Penelope, Reality, Reign, Robert, Saint, San Diego, Scott, Show, Single, Smooch, Socialite, Special, Stormi, Style, Travis, Tristan, True, West

Yesterday's Answer: Services

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ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In The Matter of the Estate of ESTEBAN RASIANG NOGIS, Deceased.) CIVIL ACTION NO.: 05-0113 D

NINTH AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on April 16, 2018, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, interest of Defendant in and to the following property: Tract No. 22703-3, containing an area of 1,484 square meters, more or less.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, October 26, 2018, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at the Law Office of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

Dated, this 19th day of September, 2018:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ, F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL.: (670) 234-6547 • FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION, Plaintiff, -v- JOAQUIN B. CAMACHO AND RAMONA S. CAMACHO Defendant.) CIVIL ACTION NO. 17-0016

FIRST AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on March 27, 2018, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, interest of Defendant in and to the following property: Lot. No. 010 k 2016, situated in DanDan, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 812 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat no. 010 K 01, dated August 19, 1987, Commonwealth Recorder's File no. 87-2909, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, October 26, 2018, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at the Law Office of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

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Dated, this 19th day of September, 2018:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

WHATZIT Solution: Old timer

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Thomas wins successive money titles, 1st since Woods

NEW YORK (AP)—Tiger Woods finished off the PGA Tour season by tapping in for par to win the Tour Championship, a moment that ended any doubts that he could win again after four surgeries on his lower back. And then the moment was gone.

Hours later, Woods and 17 other players were headed to France for the all-consuming Ryder Cup. And with barely enough time to digest Europe winning and Patrick Reed pouting, the PGA Tour started up a new season in California.

A few nuggets were lost in the quick transition.

Justin Thomas tied for fifth at the Tour Championship, and that was enough for him to win the PGA Tour money title for the second straight year after earning $8,694,821, beating out Dustin Johnson by $237,469. That was the smallest margin since Matt Kuchar won by $100,855 over Jim Furyk in 2010.

The PGA Tour no longer talks about money in the FedEx Cup era, though Thomas still wins a trophy. The Arnold Palmer Award is given to the leading money winner. Thomas became the first back-to-back winner of the award since Woods in 2006 and 2007.

Johnson, meanwhile, won the Vardon Trophy for the lowest scoring average (the PGA Tour has the Byron Nelson Award, so Johnson gets two trophies). Johnson won for the second time in three years. The first time, in 2016, he wasn't sure what it was.

Brooks Koepka won PGA Tour player of the year, which was no surprise considering his two major championships. The only time someone won two majors and was not PGA Tour player of the year was in 1990, when Nick Faldo wasn't a PGA Tour member.

For the first time in 10 years, the tour's three main awards were won by three players—Koepka, Thomas and Johnson. In 2008, Padraig Harrington was the player of the year, Vijay Singh won the money title and Sergio Garcia won the Vardon Trophy.

Singh won the money title by $826,094 over Woods while playing 17 more events. That was the year Woods had season-ending knee surgery in June, so he was ineligible for the Vardon Trophy (Woods played only 20 rounds). Harrington won two majors that year.

As for Woods?

The Tour Championship was his 80th victory, which was well documented even with all the attention on the Ryder Cup. He also improved his record to 44-2 when leading going into the final round on the PGA Tour. Also worth noting is that Woods joined Johnson and Rory McIlroy with his fourth FedEx Cup playoff victory.

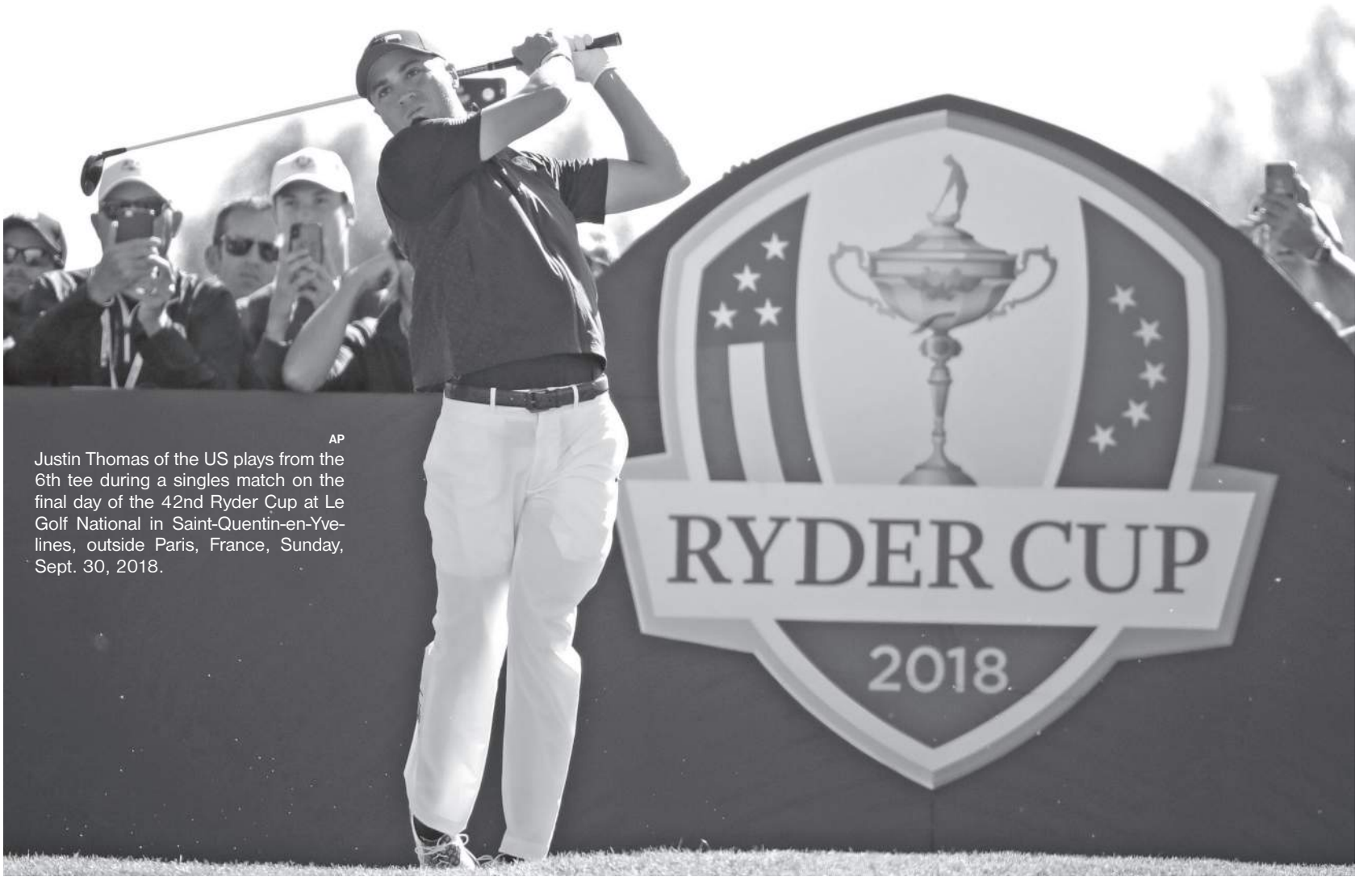
The victory also meant Woods has won five tournaments in three decades—Firestone, Torrey Pines, Memorial, Tour Championship and World Golf Championships at Valderrama in 1999, Ireland in 2002, Atlanta in 2003, Harding Park in 2005, England in 2006 and Doral in 2007 and 2013.

The PGA Tour will spend the next three weeks in Asia, which can pay off for those willing to travel.

For players like Joel Dahmen and Sam Ryder, it will be their first tournament without a cut in the CIMB Classic. For players like Pat Perez, who won the CIMB Classic last year, it can set him up for the rest of the year. Perez earned 56 percent of his regular-season FedEx Cup points from the CIMB Classic, CJ Cup in South Korea and the World Golf Championships event in Shanghai.

Perez was among 16 players who took part in all three stops in the Asia swing.

Also at stake are world ranking points, especially for those close enough to the top 50 to think about the Masters. The top 50 in the world at the end of the year are invited to Augusta National. Perez is at No. 56 and not yet eligible for the Masters.



AP

Justin Thomas of the US plays from the 6th tee during a singles match on the final day of the 42nd Ryder Cup at Le Golf National in Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines, outside Paris, France, Sunday, Sept. 30, 2018.

NBA coaches box get a little more diverse during offseason

LOS ANGELES (AP)—TThe NBA coaching box is looking far more diverse these days.

When the season starts next week, there will be the league's first head coach born and raised outside North America and the first Hispanic-American full-time head coach. And there's a real chance that before long, someone like Becky Hammon could become the first woman to lead a NBA club.

In a league where minorities make up the overwhelming majority of stars on the floor, there's still a movement to make those same diverse strides in who is calling the shots on the sideline.

"The league is starting to move in a direction with the coaches of being more diverse," said Memphis coach J.B. Bickerstaff, whose father also was a head coach in the NBA. "And it's just about opportunity and everybody wants an equal playing field. And I think when you get an equal playing field you know people from all backgrounds can rise to the occasion."

That's what the Suns believed when they hired Igor Kokoskov, a native of Serbia, and the Charlotte Hornets did when they tabbed James Borrego — the league's first full-time Hispanic coach. Borrego's whose seat on the front row of the Spurs' bench was inherited by Hammon after she was promoted by San Antonio coach Gregg Popovich—after a summer where Hammon was a candidate to take over in Milwaukee.

Popovich's team has long been at the forefront of finding talented players in places far outside the U.S. and it's no surprise he's thought outside the box to grow his coaching tree. Besides employing Borrego and Hammon last season, his top assistant is Italian Ettore Messina, and Brett Brown had been coaching for nearly two decades in Australia before Popovich hired the current Philadelphia head coach for his staff.

"It's got nothing to do with quotas or anything like that, just people who are qualified for jobs and getting the opportunity," Popovich said. "So, there are no ceilings for anybody based on race or religion or gender or anything like that."

Nearly a third of the league changed coaches, providing opportunities for successful head coaches to quickly land with new teams (Mike Budenholzer, Milwaukee; Dwane Casey, Detroit; David Fizdale, New York; Steve Clifford, Orlando), assistants a shot at finally running their own clubs (Kokoskov, Phoenix; Nick Nurse, Toronto; Lloyd Pierce, Atlanta), and second chances to coaches who only had brief stints at the top (Bickerstaff and Borrego).

Though they come from such varying backgrounds, they are family. Coaches support each other even while sometimes competing with each other for the same jobs. Fizdale received calls from coaches around the league when he was fired early last season in Memphis, and he made a similar call to Jeff Hornacek when he was let go by the Knicks.

"Because we're a fraternity," Fizdale said. "We really do take pride in that in the NBA, that we look out for each other and stay connected with each other and when I got fired they all reached out to me the same way. And it's heartfelt because there's only 30 of these."

NBA Commissioner Adam Silver asked teams to review their hiring practices in the front office following the workplace harassment investigation of the Dallas Mavericks, with the hope of more women being hired at the senior levels.

He doesn't have the same concerns at the coaching level, in part because of Hammon's success. When she coached the Spurs to the Summer League title in 2015, Silver said he had "no doubt" that a woman would someday coach an NBA team.

"I think just like we've seen enormous change in our society, just in the last decade, I think that's another ceiling, another barrier that will be broken," Silver said at the time.

He credited women such as Hammon and players willing to follow them for his belief. But Popovich and other coaches say the credit goes to Silver for making diversity and inclusion such important themes in the NBA.

"I think our league is probably the most diverse league, whether it's nationality, race, gender, whatever it is," Casey said. "I know we have issues as far as things are going on just like corporations in the world, but it starts with Adam's outlook. He really promotes that from a leadership standpoint of diversity, inclusion, the whole nine yards, but it starts with him."

But it started before Silver became commissioner. There were 16 coaches of color—more than half the league—in 2012, with 14 African-Americans, a Filipino-American in Miami's Erik Spoelstra, and Kaleb Canales, who became the league's first Mexican-American coach when he replaced the fired Nate McMillan in Portland on an interim basis. He's now an assistant to Fizdale in New York.

Kokoskov was well respected in the coaching ranks by then, having won a title in Detroit during six seasons as an assistant and helping the Suns reach the Western Conference finals in 2010.

Red Sox hold off Yankees, advance to ALCS

NEW YORK (AP)—Eduardo Nunez charged Gleyber Torres' four-hopper toward third base and whipped the ball across the diamond. Steve Pearce stretched, falling on his chest for a sprawling catch. The umpire signaled: "Out!"

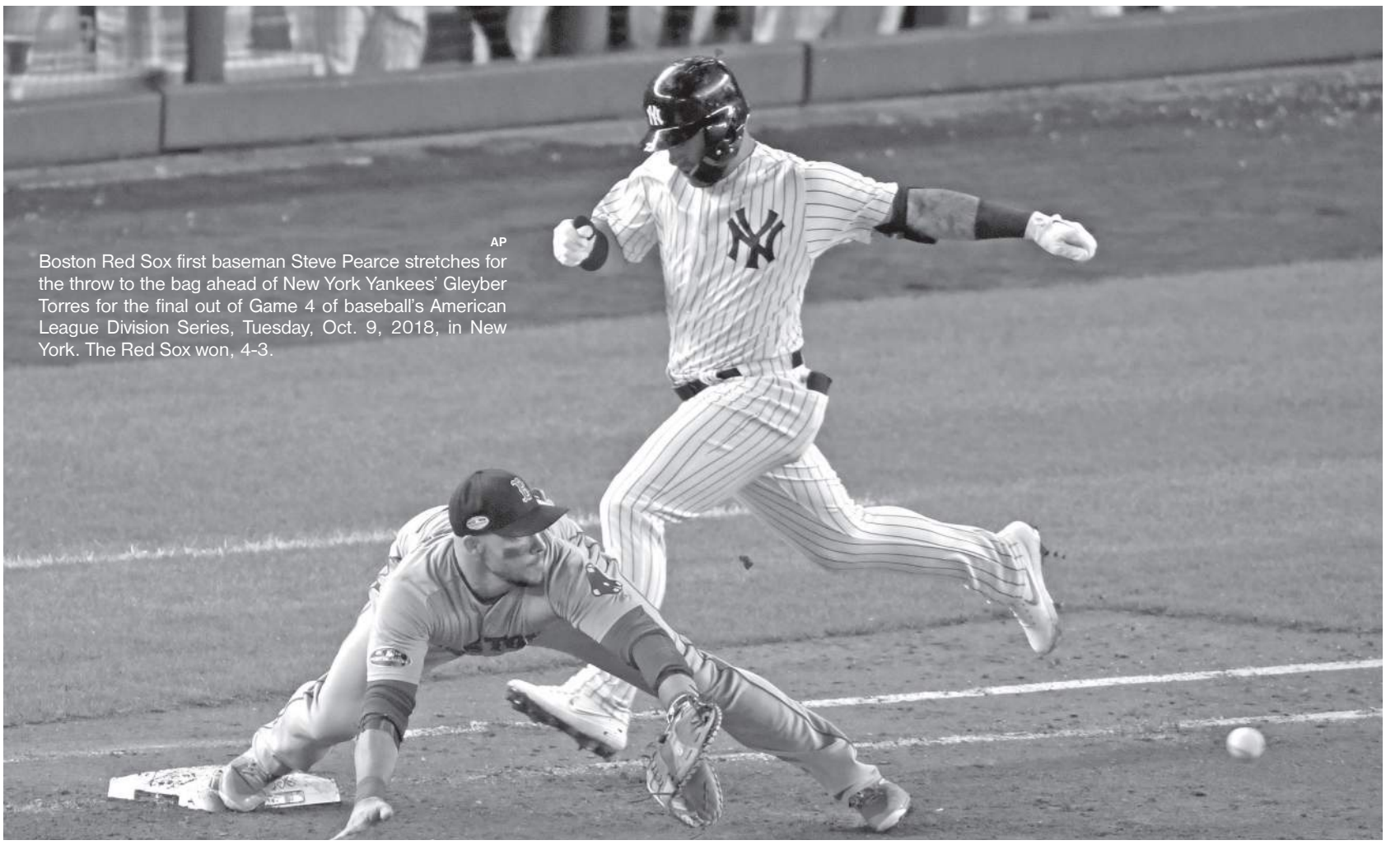
The Boston Red Sox gathered around exhausted closer Craig Kimbrel, hugging and celebrating after the New York Yankees' two-run rally in the ninth inning fell short.

But wait!

In 21st century baseball, the game doesn't always end when it seems, hanging in limbo until umpires in a downtown Manhattan replay room agree.

A Yankee Stadium crowd of 49,641 wondered and the Red Sox paused as they watched from the infield in suspended celebration, fixated on the center-field video board.

After 63 seconds that felt like a lot longer, crew chief Mike Winters heard the decision, took off his headset, raised his right fist and made it official: The Red Sox beat the Yankees 4-3 Tuesday night to win the AL Division Series 3-1, setting up a postseason rematch with the World Series champion Astros.



AP

Boston Red Sox first baseman Steve Pearce stretches for the throw to the bag ahead of New York Yankees' Gleyber Torres for the final out of Game 4 of baseball's American League Division Series, Tuesday, Oct. 9, 2018, in New York. The Red Sox won, 4-3.

"I've been talking about them the whole season, so now we go," said Red Sox rookie manager Alex Cora, Houston's bench coach last year. "Best of seven. They know me. I know them. It should be fun."

J.D. Martinez and the 108-win Red Sox reached the AL Championship Series for the first time since Boston won the title in 2013. A year after losing to Houston in a four-game ALDS, the Red Sox open the best-of-seven matchup against the 103-win Astros on Saturday night at Fenway Park. Houston went 4-3 against Boston this year.

"Awesome to clinch this one," Red Sox reliever Matt Barnes said, "but we've got eight more."

A New Jersey native who grew up a Mets fan, Rick Porcello held the Yankees to one run over five innings for his first postseason win in 13 appearances. Barnes and Ryan Brasier followed with a perfect inning each to protect a 4-1 lead.

Red Sox ace Chris Sale told Cora when he arrived at the ballpark that he wanted to pitch, and he followed with a 1-2-3 eighth in a rare relief appearance that extended the Yankees' streak of consecutive outs to 11.

New York had not put a leadoff runner on until Kimbrel, a seven-time All-Star closer, walked Aaron Judge on four pitches leading off the ninth.

Didi Gregorius singled and Giancarlo Stanton struck out, Luke Voit walked on four pitches, and Kimbrel hit Neil Walker on a leg with his next pitch, forcing in a run that made it 4-2.

Gary Sanchez fell behind 0-2 in the count, worked it full and sent a drive that had the crowd roaring only for Andrew Benintendi to catch it on the left-field warning track, a few feet short of a series-tying grand slam.

"I hit it well. But I got under it," Sanchez said through a translator.

Then came Torres' bouncer.

"You never want to give a game back and go to a Game 5, so it's great that we could do it tonight," Kimbrel said.

A night after Boston romped to a record-setting 16-1 rout in a game that included three replay reversals, Martinez, Ian Kinsler and Nunez drove in runs in the third inning off a wobbly CC Sabathia. For the second straight night, Yankees rookie manager Aaron Boone hesitated to remove his starting pitcher early.

When Boone brought in Zach Britton to start the fourth, and Christian Vazquez led off with an opposite-field drive over the short porch in right field for his first career postseason homer.

Not even the presence of 1978 AL East tiebreaker star Bucky Dent for the ceremonial first pitch could inspire the 100-win Yankees, who were outscored 27-14 in the series, including 20-4 in the final two games. New York set a major league record this year for most home runs in a season, but didn't go deep in the two games at Yankee Stadium and hit .214 in the series, which included 3 for 14 by Gregorius, 1 for 15 by Andrew McCutchen and 3 for 15 by Sanchez.

Stanton, New York's big acquisition last offseason, was 4 for 18 (.222) with no RBIs.

"I don't want to experience the postseason. I want to win it all," Stanton said.

Yanks' bats go silent at wrong time

Whenever the baseball world stops poring over every single aspect of Aaron Boone's bullpen management throughout the Yankees' four-game loss to the Red Sox in the 2018 ALDS, we'll settle on a hard truth: None of it really mattered.

Maybe the Yankees could've kept some of Boston's 16 runs off the board if Boone had a quicker trigger in Game 3, and maybe they would've kept Game 4 closer if a reliever were warming up when CC Sabathia started to falter in the third inning, but Boone did not lose the series for the Yankees.

The Yankees lost the series for the Yankees. Their thunderous bats went ominously quiet at exactly the wrong time. Their patient lineup, which led the American League in walks during the regular season, drew only one base on balls from the first inning Monday through the eighth inning Tuesday before their ill-fated comeback effort against a wild Craig Kimbrel in the final inning of Game 4.

They failed to force Boston hurlers into high pitch counts and early exits, missing the opportunity to beat up on a soft underbelly in the Red Sox' bullpen that got exposed early in the series. They averaged 5.25 runs per game for the season, but mustered only one Monday and three Tuesday.

"I think they did a really good job of game planning and executing, for the most part," Boone said after the Game 4 loss. "Do we need to be better? Of course. Obviously."

Giancarlo Stanton, the 2017 NL MVP whom the Yankees picked up in an offseason trade, came up short in the series after hitting 38 home runs and knocking in 100 during the regular season.

"We had opportunities with runners in scoring position, but I'm not going to pick apart the series," said Stanton, who went 4-for-18 in the ALDS without an extra-base hit and struck out with two runners on in the ninth on Tuesday. "We fought hard, and we came up short."

After finishing the regular season with a .782 OPS that ranked second only to the Red Sox in the major leagues, they notched a woeful .616 mark in the ALDS. They hit four homers in the set, but three of them came with the bases empty. As a team, they hit .214 in the series. Take out Aaron Judge's contributions and that mark drops to .191.

"You have a lot of opportunities over the course of a game or the course of a series," said veteran outfielder Brett Gardner. "You're not going to capitalize on every one of them, and obviously they just did a better job of that than we did. They outhit us, they outpitched us, and they outplayed us."

Bregman, Astros break into prime time for ALCS Games 1 and 2

NEW YORK (AP) — Alex Bregman is getting his wish — the Houston Astros are headed for prime time.

Major League Baseball released the schedule for Games 1 and 2 of the NL and AL Championship Series on Tuesday, and the Astros will play either the Boston Red Sox or New York Yankees on Saturday and Sunday nights.

The Astros played all three of their AL Division Series games against the Cleveland Indians in the afternoon, with Red Sox and Yankees playing exclusively in prime time.

Bregman sounded off about the scheduling decision to ESPN after the defending World Series champions completed a three-game sweep of the Indians on Monday.

"Does Floyd Mayweather fight the first fight of the night, or is he the main event?" Bregman said. "I mean, does Tiger Woods tee off at 8 a.m.? It's about time the show 'Stros play on prime-time television, so we're looking forward to the ALCS."

Game 1 of the ALCS will be at 8:09 p.m. Saturday, and Game 2 will be at 7:09 p.m. Sunday. Game 1 of the NLCS between Milwaukee and the Los Angeles Dodgers will be Friday at 8:09 p.m., and Game 2 will be Saturday at 4:09 p.m. The schedule is the same as last year, and Houston would have played Game 2 in prime time regardless because it is the only scheduled game that day.

Meanwhile, the Tampa Bay Rays, who won more games than any American League team that didn't make the playoffs, have rewarded manager Kevin Cash with a contract extension that runs through 2024, plus a club option for 2025.

The 40-year-old Cash had one year remaining on a five-year, $5 million deal he signed when he replaced Joe Maddon after the 2014 season.

Financial terms were not disclosed. Both Cash, who had no previous managerial experience when he was hired, and management said it was an easy decision to continue their relationship after a bounce-back season.

"Kevin has a long list of positives. ... It's been a joy to see him blossom," general manager Erik Neander said Tuesday. "He's very deserving of this extension. We're excited for the years ahead."

Beach v-ball revived, Team MNM prevails

By BEA CABRERA
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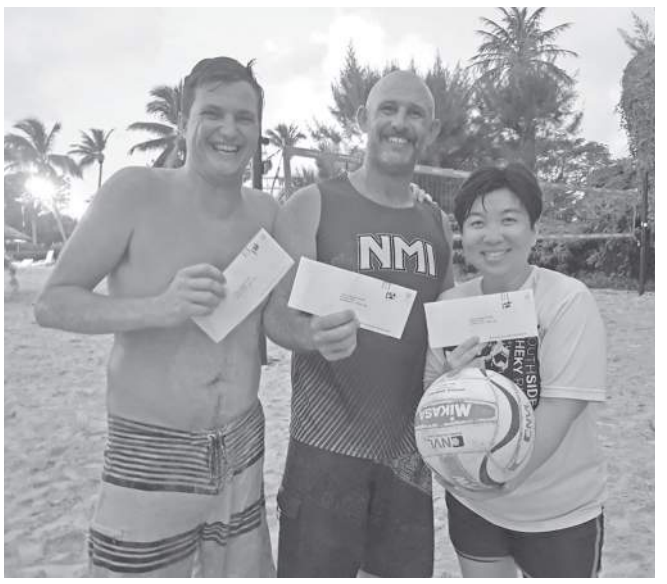
CORRESPONDENT

After two years of hiatus, the Northern Mariana Islands Volleyball Association revived the community's interest to go out and play beach volleyball with a tournament called "Beach Volleyball Match-Up 2018" held at the Hyatt Regency Saipan sand courts last Saturday.

Almost 20 teams were organized and played in a three-member mixed squad with Team MNM, composed of Nick Gross, Mei Rengiil and Micah Paige, emerging as winners. Team MNM lost to Saipan Maniacs of Denise Myers, Jamin Richard Elliot, and Alfredo Guevarra in Game 1, 12-21, but bounced back in Game 2, 15-13, to bag the championship.



BEA CABRERA

From left, Micah Paige, Nick Gross, and Mei Rengiil of TEAM MNM pose with their first place awards during the Beach Volleyball Match-Up 2018 held last Saturday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan volleyball sand court.

"It was a team effort as the men in the team, Micah and I, wanted Mei to get involved as much as possible and give her all the balls in the net. We just wanted to support and let her play her best today (last Saturday)," Gross said.

Gross also congratulated NMIVA for organizing a wonderful tournament. "We look forward to the next beach volleyball tournament that encourages the community to get out and be active," he added.

Joining Team MNM and Saipan Maniacs in the Top 3 was Saipanauts Team, which had Russ Quinn, Eric O'Malley and Bailey Spaeth as players.

Almost 70 athletes from different age groups showed up and registered to play for revived tournament. The sand courts by the turquoise blue ocean at the Hyatt Regency Saipan were filled with both athletes and spectators who did not mind the scorching sun because all came for the beach, sport, and good times.

"We did this two years back and now we are trying to bring the tournament again to be able to promote volleyball and bring new people and people who have been out of it for a while." NMIVA volunteer Kathleen Winkfield said.

"We actually had a good turnout and we are looking forward to more games. Currently, we are working that at least once a month we would have volleyball games organized and we hope we can get more support. I hope volleyball does grow to bring the community together, promote health and wellness, and provide opportunities for volleyball enthusiasts—both for first timers and volleyball athletes." she added.

NMIVA president Laurie Paterka confirmed NMIVA's vision of organizing games once a month.

"We have a group that is working towards trying to develop a 12-month calendar and we want to make sure that we are accommodating the indoor, beach volleyball, and also the grass tournaments that brings the indoor and beach people together which is always really fun," she said.

"The goal is to at least have one event once a month and at present, our focus has been initially on the college age group and above because we know that there are a lot of school sports or youth activities going on. But part of the vision is to squeeze in youth activities in between tournaments," she added.

NMC instructor Ajani Burnell made the tournament a family affair by bringing his entire family to enjoy the sun and beach and for his children to watch their parents play. "I heard about the tournament through the NMIVA Facebook page. My wife and I signed up to play and I know that events like this are welcoming to families… once we got to the venue, I was even more pleased as NMIVA had tents set-up for shade, water and sports drinks for all. There were a bunch of families there so it made for great fun both for children and adults," he said.

"It was fun playing against my wife, Sara. We have different volleyball abilities so it was great for us to be able to participate in the same tournament and play against each other in a friendly but competitive atmosphere. We both had a blast and we'll definitely be joining next time around," he added.

Paterka said that NMIVA is committed to promote volleyball in the CNMI.

"We have this responsibility that we are charged with to try to grow a sport that is accessible to the community. Part of growing that sport, we are always looking for volunteers and trying to hold classes to teach how to be a referee and coach, and hold more events," she added.

Giants believe breakout is near despite 1-4 record

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) — It's hard to say whether the New York Giants are engaging in wishful thinking or there is something to their optimism these days.

The reality is the Giants have a 1-4 record heading into Thursday night's game against the Super Bowl champion Philadelphia Eagles (2-3) and they are facing long odds in a bid to make the playoffs in coach Pat Shurmur's first season.

The struggling Eagles have beaten New York in their last three meetings and seven of the last eight. The Giants are coming off an excruciating last-second 33-31 loss to Carolina on a 63-yard field goal by Graham Gano, and now they have to rebound with three days of preparation.

But the Giants believe there is reason for hope. Their offense scored 30 points for the first time since the end of the 2015 season. The team rallied from an 11-point fourth-quarter deficit to take a lead with just over a minute to play, only to be denied by a near-record kick. And they did all this despite dealing with some ill-chosen words by star receiver Odell Beckham Jr., about Eli Manning and the team's heart in the days leading up to the game.

"Very optimistic," Beckham said Tuesday when asked about the team. "I've always said, it's a long season, and we have an opportunity to come in here in a big, big division game and be able to reshape our season. We know what we have in front of us, short week, just coming off of a tough loss, so we're all just trying to get our minds wrapped around what the game plan is, how we can come out and best beat Philly."

The Eagles tend to bring out some of the best in the Giants. Despite winning only three games last season, they lost two games to Philadelphia by eight points, with the first coming on a last-second 61-yard field goal by Jake Elliott. The second was 34-29 in a game New York trailed by two points entering the final quarter.

The Giants also could be getting some key players back. Linebacker and leading pass rusher Olivier Vernon, who has yet to play because of a high ankle sprain, is very close to ready. Tight end Evan Engram, who missed the last two games with a sprained knee, was going to test his knee in practice on Tuesday. Both were limited.

MCS

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a 6-0 run, cutting the deficit to just 3. However, with the game on the line, the Knights got their acts together and squashed SCS' run to gain the outright victory.

Mt. Carmel and SCS are playing in the final stages of the regular season and both are feeling the pressure of the approaching playoffs.

The Knights' Brandy Matsumoto described the game as enjoyable for her and her teammates despite nearly squandering their lead in the second set. She also acknowledged the gravity of the upcoming playoffs and said the rest of the MCS team will be focusing on honing their fundamentals, such as bumping and serving.

SCS's head coach TJ Van Weerdhuizen, likewise, made similar comments.

"I think the main thing that we're working on going into the playoffs is just continuing to work on the fundamentals."

Van Weerduizen added that he will keep on instilling confidence to his players as the playoff round nears. Both MCS and SCS have one game remaining on their schedule before the playoffs take place.

Meanwhile, in other results last Tuesday, Grace Christian Academy 2 beat Seventh Day Adventist in straight sets, 25-11, 21-15, while Agape Christian School 1 bested Agape 2 in three, 25-13, 23-25, 15-11.

With Agape 1 prevailing, it improved its record to 9-1 and is still in second place behind the unbeaten GCA 1 (11-0). GCA 2 is ranked third with its 8-4 slate and followed by MCS (6-5), SIS (5-6), SCS (4-9), SDA (2-9), and ACS (1-12).

The playoff round will start on Oct. 16, while the semifinals will be held on Oct. 17, and the championship game is scheduled for Oct. 18. Venue for the playoff games will be announced later.

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the rest of her SIS teammates placing in the Top 5. Millare made it to the third and final series last Saturday and was ranked at No. 3, while Castillo had the same finish in the second leg.

Tan also had the best time among CNMI runners in last year's AsPac race after completing the 5K event in 23:18.4, while Miyawaki clocked in at 25:29.6. Agape's Ying Zhang (24:48), Min Yu (28:58), and Tianbo Zhang (29:36) were the other members of Team Marianas in 2017.

In the men's division, three Agape runners, two from SIS, and one from SIS made up the CNMI squad. Agape's Kaiping Wang and Lue Xiong will compete in the tournament anew after debuting last year and will be joined by their schoolmate Chenxuan Yang. Wang and Xiong were the best finishers on Team Marianas last year after submitting identical times of 22:05.2.

SIS' Je Hyuk Jung is also returning in the competition this year, while Kuu Nishimura, also from SIS, and MHS' Ken Song will race in the AsPac for the first time. Tinian's Tyler Santos is the alternate.

Jung timed in at 23:20.2 in last year's individual run, finishing ahead of Agape's Dawei Cai (26:09) and behind SIS' Clayton Izuka (22:15) and Alex Park (22:38).

NMA is the lead group in charge of sending Team Marianas to Guam and the association will shoulder the entry fees ($65 per athlete) and half of the airfare and accommodation costs.

Next weekend's cross country event will feature more than 20 high school teams from Guam, Japan, Hong Kong, and the Philippines. The 5K individual race will take place at the John F. Kennedy High School grounds, while the relay will be held at Ypao Beach. The times of the Top 5 runners from each school will be considered to determine the team rankings.

BEARS

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then scored of the Aces' defensive mishaps to take the shaky lead after their opponents got two runs at the bottom of the opening inning off Mike Iguel's RBI double and Angel Falig's sacrifice fly.

After giving up seven runs to the Bears in the second inning, the Aces tightened up their defense in the ensuing plays to remain in the game. On offense, Tyrone Omar added one run for the Aces at the bottom of the third off the Bears' error, while Falig blasted a two-run single in the fourth inning to trim the deficit, 5-10.

The Bears failed to widen the gap when they went scoreless from the third to ninth inning and were threatened by the deposed champion at the bottom of the last, no thanks to Benwachi Taisacan's round-tripper.

The lefty, with one out and Falig on first base, was called for two outs and two balls when he took A.J. Lizama's fifth pitch and hit an over-the-fence homer at rightfield and brought Falig home. Taisacan's homer cut the deficit to 3 and the Aces stayed in the game when Barry Sunumai walked. However, he was left stranded there and the Aces were eliminated when the Bears got the last two outs. A.J. Lizama fanned Jeremy Atalig and second baseman Fred Songao caught Juan Iguel's line drive.

With the sweep, the Bears now await the winner of the other semis series between Go See Mark and the Mariners. GSM won Game 1 last Monday, 14-10, but the Mariners placed the opener under protest, as the former used a wrong player at leftfield. League officials have yet to decide on the protest, while GSM and the Mariners played Game 2 of the series last night and results of their match were unavailable at press time.

The Bears and the winner in the GSM-Mariners tiff will duel in a best-of-five title series later this month, as SBL will push back the finale to give way to a tournament at the Capital Hill Ballfield.

2018 Marianas Cup

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The CNMI Men's U17 National Team's Jonathan Capayas, right, uses his body to deflect the ball, while Guam's Joshua Bamba stays close in the play during the second half of their game in last Sunday's 2018 Marianas Cup at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville. Guam won in shootout, 5-3.

The CNMI's John Michael Rojas, right, defends against Guam's Kyle Halehale.

CNMI coach Michiteru Mita shouts instructions to his players.

The CNMI's Sunjoon Tenorio signals to his teammates.

CNMI coach Michiteru Mita, left, and his counterpart in Guam, Karl Dodd, meet after the game to congratulate each other.

Game officials exit the main pitch after the match.

Guam players exchange high-fives with members and officials of the CNMI Men's U17 National Team.

Thomas wins successive money titles, 1st since Woods

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Red Sox hold off Yankees, advance to ALCS

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Bears take first finals seat

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Chalan Kanoa Bears players and officials huddle to celebrate their Game 2 win over the Aces in their best-of-five semis series in the 2018 Saipan Baseball League last Tuesday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Chalan Kanoa Bears marched into the finals of the 2018 Saipan Baseball League after sweeping the Aces following a 10-7 win in Game 2 of their semis series last Tuesday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

A seven-run top of the second inning gave the Bears the control in the second match of the best-of-three semis series. They then withstood the Aces' rally in the last inning to take the first finals seat and dethrone the 2017 champions.

The Bears were ahead by only one, 3-2, after one complete inning when A.J. Lizama's two-run double sparked the pennant champion's surge at the top of the second. Shakobe Rangamar added a two-run single, while Henry Lizama also brought two home with his single, and Kiku Lizama had an RBI single for a 10-2 lead.

Earlier at the top of the first Kiku reached off a fielder's choice for the Bears' first run. Virgil Secharmidal and Richard Dela Cruz

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MCS sweeps SCS for sixth win

By ROBY N. PAMINTUAN
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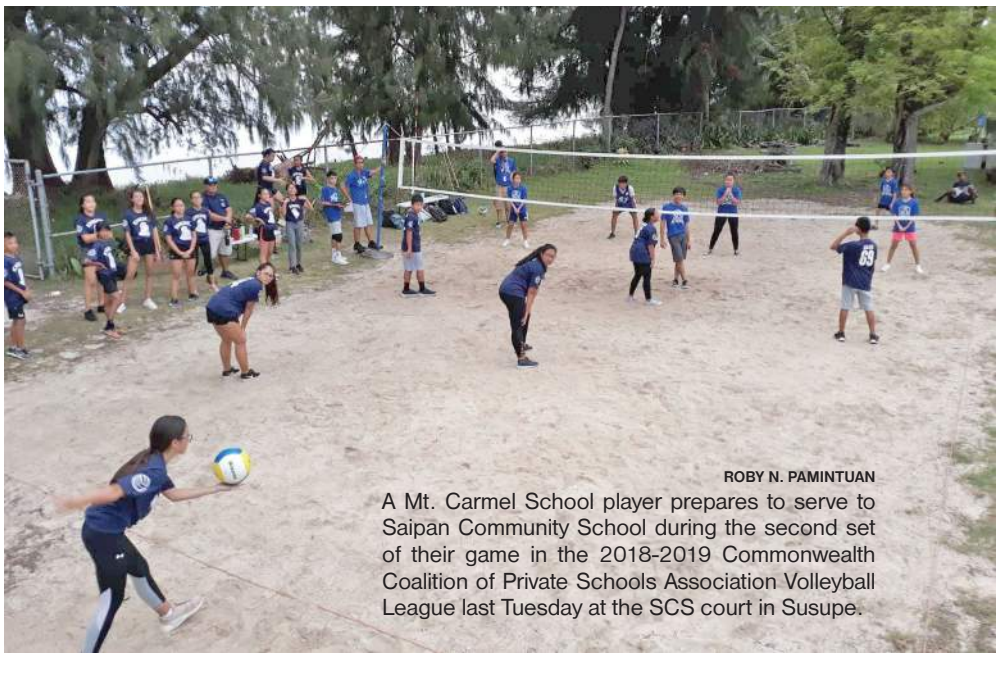
CORRESPONDENT

Mount Carmel School notched its sixth victory in the middle school division of the 2018-2019 Commonwealth Coalition of Private Schools Association Volleyball League after sweeping host Saipan Community School, 25-21, 25-20, last Tuesday.



ROBY N. PAMINTUAN

A Mt. Carmel School player prepares to serve to Saipan Community School during the second set of their game in the 2018-2019 Commonwealth Coalition of Private Schools Association Volleyball League last Tuesday at the SCS court in Susupe.

The first set of the game at the SCS court in Susupe was firmly in the Knights' control, as Kaitlyn Chavez, Kayili Peter, and Ruben Guerrero racked up several serves in succession and the rest of MCS players clamped down to play defense against SCS' returns. Mt. Carmel eventually cruised to a double-digit winning margin and moved one victory away from wrapping up the match.

The second set started off in a similar way as the opener with the Knights taking a 23-14 lead before the Tsunamis servers and spikers started heating up to mount a comeback. With SCS down by 9 points, the home team pulled together and unloaded

See MCS on Page 26

12 students off to AsPac X-Country

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Twelve students from Saipan International School, Agape Christian School, and Marianas High Schools were named to Team Marianas that will compete in the 2018 Asia Pacific Invitational Cross Country Championship in Guam next weekend.

AsPac veteran Tania Tan of SIS will lead the women's crew that will race in the individual 5K event on Oct. 20 and in the two-person relay on Oct. 21. Joining Tan on the women's team are fellow SIS students Anika Snyder and Stella McCallion and another tournament returnee Malika Miyawaki and MHS' Jerlyn Castillo and Therize Millare. Rochelle Valino is the alternate.

The four SIS runners raced in the first three legs of the 2018 Northern Marianas Athletics All Schools Cross Country Series with Tan topping the second and third after missing the kick-off and

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Saipan International School's Tania Tan, left, and Anika Snyder, will race for Team Marianas in next weekend's 2018 Asia Pacific Invitational Cross Country Championship in Guam.